

Space Careers Talk Handover

1. My Path (Short Summary)

- Studied Physics → Space Engineering → SatCom to move from theory to applications.
- Worked in consulting and co-founded a startup to gain skills & pay rent.
- Joined **ESA as YGT** in SatCom Systems Engineering.
- Key message: **"Break the mountain into steps. Pivot when needed. Be the protagonist of your story."**
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2. Jobs in the Space Industry (Europe, SatCom Focus)

- **Agencies:** e.g. ESA, UKSA, CNES, DLR, ASI, etc.
- **Industry Primes:** e.g. Airbus, Thales Alenia Space, OHB, etc.
- **Operators:** e.g. OneWeb, SES, Eutelsat, etc.
- **SMEs/Startups:** e.g. Orbit Fab (emerging ISAM company), etc.
- **Links:** [ESA Careers](#), [Space Training Catalogue](#), [Space Defence Security Jobs](#), [SpaceCareers.uk](#), [Gradcracker](#), [GradIntelligence](#).
- **Typical Role Categories**
 - **Technical:** Systems Engineer, Telecom/SatCom Engineer, Constellation Design & Modelling, Ground Segment Engineer, AI / Data Engineering, etc.
 - **Business & Strategy:** Programme/Project Management, Business Development, Techno-economic Analysis, Regulatory & Spectrum Management, etc.
 - **Operations:** Mission Operations, Network Operations (NOC), Satellite Operations, etc.

Tips to Enter the Field

- Start broad → specialise later.
- Attend conferences; know your 30-second self-pitch on your aspirations and projects.
- Apply to SMEs for early hands-on experience.
- Explore ESA YGT, internships, national agencies for broad exposure

3. Skills to Develop

1. **General STEM Skills:** Problem solving & analytical thinking, Programming (Python, MATLAB), Data handling & modelling, Clear communication & teamwork.
2. **Space-Specific Skills:** Systems engineering mindset, Basics of RF, satellite architecture & orbits, Tools: STK, GMAT, simulation environments, Understanding of space standards, regulation & economics
3. **Skills Valued in General:** Fast learning & adaptability, Clear report writing, Organisation & project structure, Proactivity (working groups, sharing ideas), Curiosity, humility & teamwork attitude

4. Key Takeaways

- No one has the perfect path, build your own!
- Imposter syndrome is normal, keep moving.
- Break big goals into achievable steps: treat your life as a systems engineer!
- Be intentional: reflect, pivot and stay motivated.
- Space needs engineers, analysts, communicators, leaders: there is a role for you to play!!!