

Tuesday, October 17

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## Plenary Panel 1:

### Optical Technology and Systems

Space-based free-space optical communications is a concept that has been around since the invention of lasers in the 1960's. In the last few years there has been an impressive amount of activity to demonstrate and launch satellites that carry on-board optical technology. These optical links are being utilized not only for inter-satellite links, but for space-ground links where gigabit data rates are a big enough draw to overcome the large propagation losses they can encounter in the atmosphere and additional pointing requirements. This plenary panel will discuss the state of the art of optical technologies and the optical systems in play today.

**Moderator:** **Pete Vrotsos**, *NASA HQ, USA*

#### Panelists:

- ✓ **Hughes Boulnois**, *Airbus/Tesat/EDRS SPACE DATA HIGHWAY, Germany*
- ✓ **Don Cornwell**, *NASA, USA*
- ✓ **Eva Gonzalez**, *Inmarsat, United Kingdom*
- ✓ **Harald Hauschildt**, *ESA ARTES, The Netherlands*
- ✓ **David Mitlyng**, *BridgeSAT, USA*
- ✓ **Sandro Scalise**, *DLR, Germany*