

## **Thomas Rohr**

European Space Agency (ESA)

Plenary Talk

### **The ESA Advanced Manufacturing Initiative as Innovation Driver for the European Space Community**

#### **About the Speaker**

Thomas Rohr joined the European Space Agency (ESA) in 2003, at the European Space Research and Technology Centre (ESTEC) in the Netherlands. During the initial years his responsibilities covered expert support for the selection of materials and processes for space applications as well as testing and assessment of durability of materials for in-orbit performance. After the European REACH regulation entered into force in 2007, his focus shifted gradually to obsolescence management of materials and processes until the occupation of the position as REACH officer in 2013. The main goal was the establishment of an early warning system as well as management of corrective actions together with European space industry and national space agencies to prevent future supply chain disruptions through obsolescence of materials and processes. In 2018 he became Head of the Materials and Processes Section, with has the primary objective to ensure that materials and manufacturing processes used to assemble a spacecrafts or launchers are fit for purpose over the life of the mission. In this function he is also responsible for coordination and implementation of technology development activities such as advanced materials and manufacturing technologies enabling future space missions. This includes disruptive technologies such as additive manufacturing as well as the digital transition including digital twins and virtual testing.