

Petr Bares, President, Czech Space Alliance, and Managing Director, Iguassu Software Systems

Petr was born in the Czech Republic but emigrated to the UK in 1968 where he graduated with M.Sc. from the University of London. He has been working in the space field since 1975 when he became the first Czech employee of the European Space Agency. In 1988 he left ESA to set up the Spanish subsidiary of Anite Systems, and expanded their business to Brazil and Argentina. In 1997 he returned to Prague to manage SciSys CZ. In 1999 Petr led a management-buy-out, creating Iguassu Software Systems – now winning more ESA and Galileo contracts than any other Czech company. In 2006 Petr co-founded the Czech Space Alliance and became its president. This 17 member industry association is absorbing the lion's share of the Czech space work in ESA and Galileo. Petr was one of only two private members of the Czech ministerial team drafting the "National Space Plan". The plan was approved by the government and led to very significant changes in the Czech space governance.