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ANNOUNCEMENT

The first Greek liquid-propellant rocket engine made in Greece is now a reality, thanks to the ASAT student team of Aristotle University

Thessaloniki, 18 June 2026

The ASAT (Aristotle Space and Aeronautics Team) student aerospace team of the School of Mechanical Engineering at the Faculty of Engineering of Aristotle University has achieved a highly significant technological milestone for the aerospace sector. The largest student team in the field in Greece successfully completed the static tests of the first publicly documented Greek liquid-propellant rocket engine, which ASAT members designed and developed entirely in-house.

The team conducted the critical tests from April 2026 until today at a closed, controlled test site in Northern Greece. The most demanding phase of the campaign involved a series of consecutive ignition and combustion cycles. Through this process, the team validated the integrity and potential of this highly innovative project, which represents an unprecedented achievement in the Greek aerospace landscape.

During the testing process, the engine remained fixed to the ground, allowing team members to collect pressure and temperature data while recording the engine's generated thrust and accurately monitoring propellant flow rates under real operating conditions.

The system's central computer, the MOP (Main Operations Platform), handled the collection, processing, and management of real-time data. The MOP is a 100% in-house, high-performance electronic board based on an advanced Xilinx FPGA SoC architecture.

The engine's technical specifications are as follows:

- **Propellants:** Liquid Oxygen (LOX) and Ethanol
- **Generated Thrust:** 5,500 N

- **Combustion Chamber Pressure:** 40 bar
- **Feed System:** Advanced pressure-fed network with operating pressures of up to 300 bar
- **Development:** 100% in-house design and implementation (from scratch)

Beyond the hard work and talent of ASAT's members, the successful completion of this project would not have been possible without the necessary resources. Specifically, 70% of the funding came from corporate sponsorships, while additional support was provided by the Special Account for Research Funds of Aristotle University.

The successful completion of the static test campaign and the system's fully safe operation now pave the way for ASAT's next major milestone: the maiden flight of its new, more powerful rocket, capable of reaching an apogee exceeding 5 kilometers and a speed of Mach 1.5.

We kindly request that this event be published, broadcast, and covered by the media.