2014: a unique year for the smallsat industry?

- A record of 195 smallsats launched in 2014 incl. about 100 cubesats for a EO constellation
- Smallsat market is dynamic outside the cubesats with 46 units (from 10 to 500 kg) on average/Y in 2013 & 2014 while the annual average was at 26 units over 2005-2012
- 3/4 of the 510 smallsats to be launched 2015-2019 will be for government civilian and defense agencies

Satellites launched into LEO in 2014


* Including 93 cubesats for Planet Labs
Earth observation now the largest smallsat application

- EO at 1/3 of the 435 smallsats launched in past 5 years: due to grow to 40% in next 5 years (incl. met data)
- Smallsat working together in constellations due to represent 50% of launches in next 5 years
- "New space" effect in commercial EO constellations: increase the imagery data flow with daily coverage of the planet

Smallsats are rather minisats

Two adjacent mass categories concentrate almost 80% of the masses launched in past 10 years and TBL in next 5 years.

Such mass concentration reflects two aspects of the smallsat industry:
- Mission complexity ultimately translates into Kg as the mass savings resulting from the introduction of new technologies (e.g. MEMS, ASICS) are used to increase payload performance.
- Multiplication of constellations for telecom and EO using satellites of 100 to 200 kg.

**Distribution of smallsat launch masses into 5 mass categories and 3 time periods**