

Students win trip to Kourou

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A large group of students and young professionals visited the European Spaceport in Kourou, French Guiana, this year – some of them even watched a real rocket launch! Two groups took the trip to South America: one at the end of February and one in mid-March 2004.

The participants were either winners of the 1st Aurora Student Design Contest or selected students from partner organisations such as International Space University. Sponsored by ESA's Education Office and the Aurora

Programme, the visits were co-sponsored by the ESA's Directorate of Launchers, CNES and Arianespace. A small group of young professionals who joined the groups were financed by their own organisations.

They were all taken on a tour of the Ariane launching and propulsion facilities and met managers who answered all their questions. The trip included a visit to interesting local and natural sights. For the first group, certainly the most exciting part of the trip was the unexpected possibility to see a launch! The lift-off of the Ariane carrying the Rosetta probe is something they will never forget.



For more information:
<http://www.esa.int/aurora>