

# Momentum and Alba Orbital Sign Contract for Up To 10 PocketQubes

Glasgow-based spacecraft manufacturer and first in-space transportation company will work together to deploy up to 10 of Alba Orbital's customers

April 14th, 2020 – Santa Clara, CA -- Momentum ([www.momentum.space](http://www.momentum.space)), provider of in-space transportation services for satellites, and Alba Orbital, builder and designer of the world's smallest commercial satellite platforms, today announced a contract for three Alba Albapods to ride on plaza deck of the Falcon 9 vehicle, which will launch in December 2020 from Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral.

Alba Orbital is actively working with customers to launch clusters to their mission requirements via PocketQube deployers suitable for 1p, 1.5p, 2p or 3p PocketQube format satellites. A PocketQube is a type of miniaturized satellite for space research that usually has a size of 5 cm cubed (one eighth the volume of a CubeSat), has a mass of no more than 250 grams.

Alba Orbital's PocketQube satellites are integrated into the Albapod deployers and mounted alongside Vigoride onto the ESPA Grande ring interface provided by SpaceX on their dedicated rideshare missions. Momentum is enabling Alba Orbital to have a regular launch cadence and mission flexibility in the future to ensure drop off orbital altitudes where their customers need it.

Based in both Glasgow, Scotland, and Berlin, Germany, Alba Orbital wants to get more people building and launching their own satellites by democratizing access to space via the PocketQube standard. They provide a hub of support for PocketQube satellites, by not only building their own platforms, but ground stations and launch services to companies, universities and space agencies around the world. Momentum's flexible shuttle service is a perfect complement to Alba's offering.

"We are very excited to be partnering with Momentum on their first rideshare mission in December where we plan to deploy a record number of PocketQubes in orbit," said Tom Walkinshaw, CEO and Founder of Alba Orbital. "The flexibility which Momentum offers enables access to proven rocket platforms, increasing our mission reliability and performance."

"Alba Orbital is a key partner for Momentum, enabling Alba Orbital to service PocketQube customers with demonstration missions in form factors even smaller than cubesats," said Mikhail Kokorich, CEO of Momentum. "We look forward to launching 10 PocketQubes in December as well as many more in the near future."

A graduate of the prestigious Y Combinator program and based in Santa Clara, California, Momentum announced a \$25.5MM Series A raise last year, bringing total funding to nearly

\$50M. Momentus employs new and proprietary technologies, including water plasma propulsion to enable revolutionary low cost orbital shuttle and charter services. The prototype of the Vigoride vehicle, “El Camino Real”, was launched and tested last year. The first full-scale Vigoride test mission is planned for Q4 of 2020 on the SpaceX dedicated rideshare mission.

### **About Momentus**

Momentus is the first company providing in-space transportation services for satellites. The company was founded in 2017 in Santa Clara, CA. Momentus designs and builds transfer vehicles propelled by proprietary water plasma thrusters. The vehicles ferry satellites to a custom orbit after they are delivered by conventional rockets to their initial orbit. Momentus is a 60 person team growing rapidly.

For more information visit <http://www.momentus.space>

### **About Alba Orbital**

Alba Orbital is the world’s leading PocketQube satellite manufacturer and launch broker. The company was founded in 2012 in Glasgow, Scotland and recently opened its second office in Berlin, Germany. To date, Alba launch has successfully deployed 6 PocketQube satellites into orbit including the Unicorn-2 platform. Unicorn-2 is the world's most capable Picosat by specification. Albaconnect, a ground station service developed by Alba, completes the full end-to-end service to newspace users and operators. Alba has 20+ customers on 3 continents.

For more information visit <http://www.albaorbital.com/>