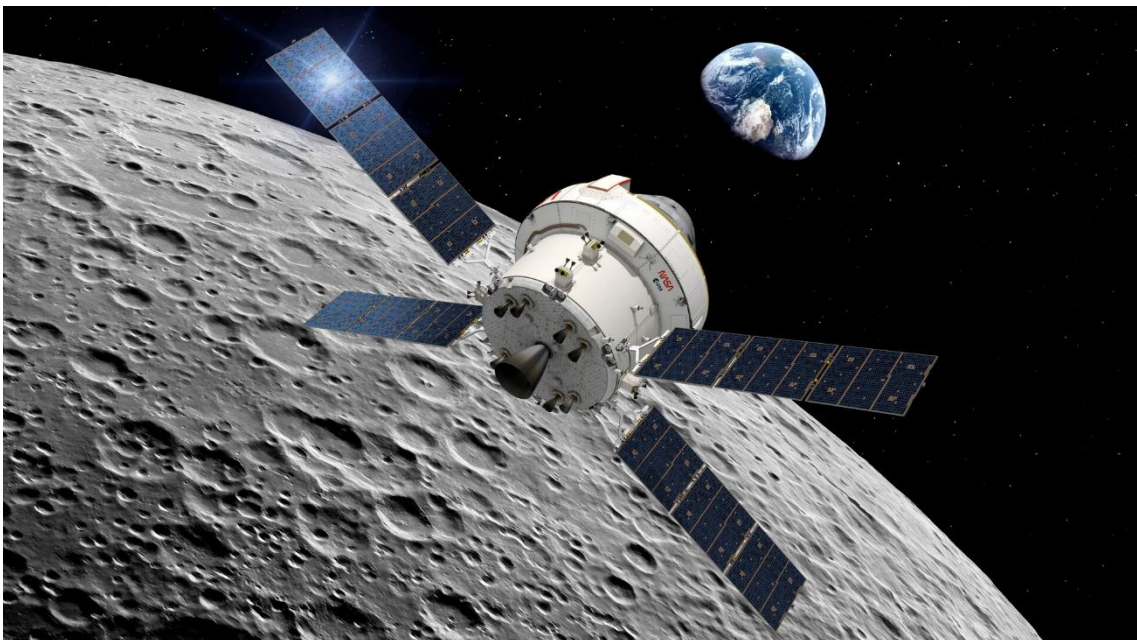


Press Release

Pforzheim, 13 April 2026

Witzenmann components on board Orion Integrity: Engineering excellence from Pforzheim on its way to the Moon

With the Artemis II mission, NASA sent humans towards the Moon on 2 April 2026 for the first time in over 50 years. The mission, crewed by four astronauts, marks a historic milestone in international space exploration – and Witzenmann was part of this landmark project with safety-critical propulsion components.



The cylindrical European Service Module (ESM) is the powerhouse of the Orion spacecraft, supplying the capsule with electricity, propulsion, thermal control, as well as air and water. (Image source: ESA - D. Ducros)

Witzenmann was part of one of the most ambitious space projects of our time: with Artemis II, humans have travelled to the Moon again for the first time since the end of NASA's Apollo programme in 1972 – and, for the first time ever, a woman, Mission Specialist Christina Koch, is part of such a mission. After almost ten days in space, the crew returned last weekend, with splashdown in the Pacific Ocean.

“We are proud that our technology from Pforzheim is contributing to the first crewed lunar mission in decades,” says Dr Matthias Farr, Vice President of the Witzenmann Aerospace division. “We stand for the highest quality and reliability. The crew, led by Commander Reid Wiseman, was able to rely on our components throughout every phase of the mission.”

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Precision from Pforzheim

The Orion spacecraft is powered and supplied by the ESM, developed by the European space industry. It incorporates safety-critical components from the global technology leader for the safe transmission of media: As a partner of ArianeGroup, Witzenmann supplied key components for the control valves that manage fuel supply to the eight auxiliary thrusters and the 24 attitude control thrusters of the ESM. These components meet the highest standards of precision and reliability – under extreme conditions in space: in a vacuum, with extreme temperature fluctuations and under the strictest safety requirements.

From test flight to crewed mission

Witzenmann was already involved in the unmanned Artemis I mission in 2022. With Artemis II, the company continues its commitment to one of the most significant international space programmes, helping to pave the way for future crewed missions, including lunar landings and beyond. A symbol of what engineering “Made in Baden-Württemberg” can achieve – and of the global competitiveness of the Witzenmann Group.

The Witzenmann Group

Technology that connects. Perfection that moves.

We are your global technology leader for the safe transmission of media, and set standards worldwide. Manufacturers, suppliers and service providers in the building, mobility and industrial sectors around the globe benefit from our unique knowledge, outstanding engineering expertise and drive for perfection.

With our piping systems, metal hoses, expansion joints, metal bellows, pipe supports and vehicle components, we offer innovative product solutions and services – also for the key technologies of the future. Semiconductor manufacturing, the hydrogen economy or e-mobility: whatever the field, we are actively shaping the transition to a decarbonised world. Our solutions are reliable, efficient and sustainable, even in the most challenging applications.

We have one goal in mind: satisfied customers whose operations run smoothly and efficiently. With the world’s most comprehensive and diverse product range, our family-owned company offers unparalleled solutions. And with around 4,400 dedicated employees in 16 countries, we are well prepared to support current as well as future customers – including you!

For more information, please visit: www.witzenmann.com

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Images and captions



Caption: The cylindrical European Service Module (ESM) is the powerhouse of the Orion spacecraft, supplying the capsule with electricity, propulsion, thermal control, as well as air and water.

Image source: ESA - D. Ducros



Bildunterschrift Witzenmann bellows for control valves in the ESM fuel supply system.

Image source: Witzenmann GmbH

Image material can be downloaded here:

<https://share.followred.com/index.php/s/fxMJD7fzddtOaK3>

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