

A Glimpse into the Final Frontier: Benelux LMAG Explores Liège's Space Hub

On 25 September 2025, members of the Benelux Life Member Affinity Group (LMAG) were treated to an extraordinary look into Belgium's world-class contributions to space science and technology. Organized by Prof. Pierre Wolper, the visit to the Centre Spatial de Liège (CSL) and AMOS showcased the cutting-edge work happening right in our region.

Our day began at CSL, introduced by Prof. Serge Habraken. Founded even before ESA, this applied research center of Université Liège is a powerhouse for developing and testing space instruments. We toured its formidable facilities, including massive, vibration-isolated vacuum chambers that simulate the harsh conditions of deep space. CSL's expertise in optics, cryogenics, and quantum key distribution is vital for renowned missions like Euclid and Solar Orbiter.

We then visited AMOS, where Dr. Xavier Verjans revealed how this company designs and polishes high-precision telescopes and optical systems with nanometer accuracy for a global clientele. The synergy between these institutions was clear, especially in their collaboration on the ambitious Einstein Telescope project. This visit was a powerful reminder of the pioneering spirit and advanced engineering thriving within our Benelux community, pushing the boundaries of what is possible in space exploration.



Some participants in front of an AMOS vacuum chamber under construction