

JIM HOAGLAND

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Good afternoon, my name is Jim Hoagland and it is my pleasure to introduce our speaker for this session. I am trying to introduce Jean-Yves Le Gall, who is the President of the Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales and also the Chair of the Council of the European Space Agency. He is what Vice President Michael Pence hopes to become in championing a new space force for the United States, and I think we will have a chance to hear a little bit about your views, Jean-Yves, on that. But we are going to begin actually with a very short, but very effective film, which we should start right now.

Jean-Yves, that was a very fascinating short film. I particularly liked the way in which it was emphasised the role that satellite systems today play in data, data transmission and accumulation. Many people are talking about data as the new petroleum of the world economy perhaps that is a subject we can come back to in the course of our remarks.