



ARISS EUROPE

Amateur Radio on the International Space Station

News Bulletin February 29, 2016

SUCCESSFUL CONTACT FOR ISTITUTO SOBRERO, CASALE MONFERRATO, ITALY

Thursday February 25, at 09:08 UTC, 10:08 local time, an ARISS contact has been established between students at school and NASA astronaut Tim Kopra KE5UDN aboard the International Space Station. The contact occurred as direct thanks to the ground station installed at school by IK1SLD's team.

School presentation: The school is dedicated to Ascanio Sobrero. October 12, 2012 was celebrated the 200th anniversary of his birthday. Ascanio Sobrero was an Italian chemist, born in our city, Casale Monferrato, and during his research he discovered the "nitroglycerine". Sobrero inspired young Alfred Nobel who received several patents around the world for mixtures, devices and manufacturing methods based on the explosive power of nitroglycerine. Nobel always acknowledged and honored Sobrero as the man who had discovered nitroglycerine.

Since IK1SLD is also conducting the official telebridge station in Casale Monferrato, they had the school connected via phone to the telebridge station, ready to act as a backup in case of issues at school.

AOS occurred perfectly on time, and with ISS at only 2 degrees above the horizon students started putting questions, 22 questions answered by astronaut Tim Kopra before LOS. With ISS at almost -1 degree below the horizon students exchanged greetings and received a "Ciao" in Italian from the astronaut. Signal was loud and extremely clear for more than the 9 minute ISS pass over Casale Monferrato.

More than 250 people in the conference room participated in the event, two local newspaper and a major press agency ANSA were present. Event has been broadcasted on www.ariotti.com, 100 students from a Scientific High School in Livorno followed the event via live streaming (under the direction of Kayser Italia and Fabrizio Carrai IU5GEZ). Also from Cittadella Meditteranea dell Scienza in Bari, where a school from Rutigliano was present for a visit, 70 students participated thanks to the streaming.

Audio from the event is available here:

http://www.ariss-eu.org/media/media/ARISS_CasaleMonferrato_20160225.mp3

Congratulation to students, IK1SLD Cluadio and his team (who also faced an issue with the antenna the night before the event)

73, IZ2GOJ Gianpietro