

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Press Release

# mtex and GTM join forces to build the TIM telescope

**Wiesbaden, Germany/The Hague, The Netherlands – January 28, 2021** - The University of Arizona has awarded mtex antenna technology a contract to build the 2m Terahertz Intensity Mapper (TIM) telescope. TIM is a balloon borne telescope with the goal of a wholly unprecedented experiment to study the cosmic star formation history. The TIM telescope will span a crucial gap in the spectroscopic coverage of current antennas allowing to provide vital insight into the evolution of the galaxy. The telescope will be launched like its predecessor BLAST-TNG (see picture) from Antarctica and perform a long duration flight at an altitude of 37km.



To obtain a cost effective and precise structure mtex antenna technology and GTM Advanced Structures (GTM-AS) have joint their forces. mtex antenna technology will design and apply its unique telescope technology for the TIM project, while GTM-AS will produce and manufacture the CFRP Back up-structure and tripod. Assembly and testing will be performed at GTM-AS facility together by mtex antenna technology and GTM-AS.

**Lutz Stenvers (CEO):** mtex antenna technology has selected GTM-AS as its partner for the ambitious TIM balloon telescope structure. The mtex Team members and Jochem Frudiger (COO of GTM-AS) have successfully worked together on previous astronomical large scale submm telescope projects. GTM's CFRP know-how, their flexibility and their recent investments into a modern CFRP manufacturing technology facility are providing a perfect set up for the TIM project. Both companies will work together to deliver this Year the high quality and high-performance structure that survives the harsh conditions of Antarctica and the stratosphere.



**Jan Willem Gunnink (CEO):** GTM-AS is very honored with the decision of mtex antenna technology to choose GTM-AS as its partner for the development and production of composite structures for its products, especially its unique antenna technique. We are looking forward to this as well as future cooperation.

**About mtex antenna technology**

mtex antenna technology in Wiesbaden, Germany develops and manufactures telescopes for astronomy and geodesy, as well as special antennas for demanding applications. mtex supplies antenna systems and ground stations for satellite communication with spacecrafts for business, research, ministries and government agencies.

**About GTM Advanced Structures**

GTM Advanced Structures develops and manufactures hardware for the space industry. GTM's portfolio includes structural parts, solar panels, antennas and ground station hardware. GTM-AS is located at Technology Park Ypenburg (TPY) in The Hague.

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