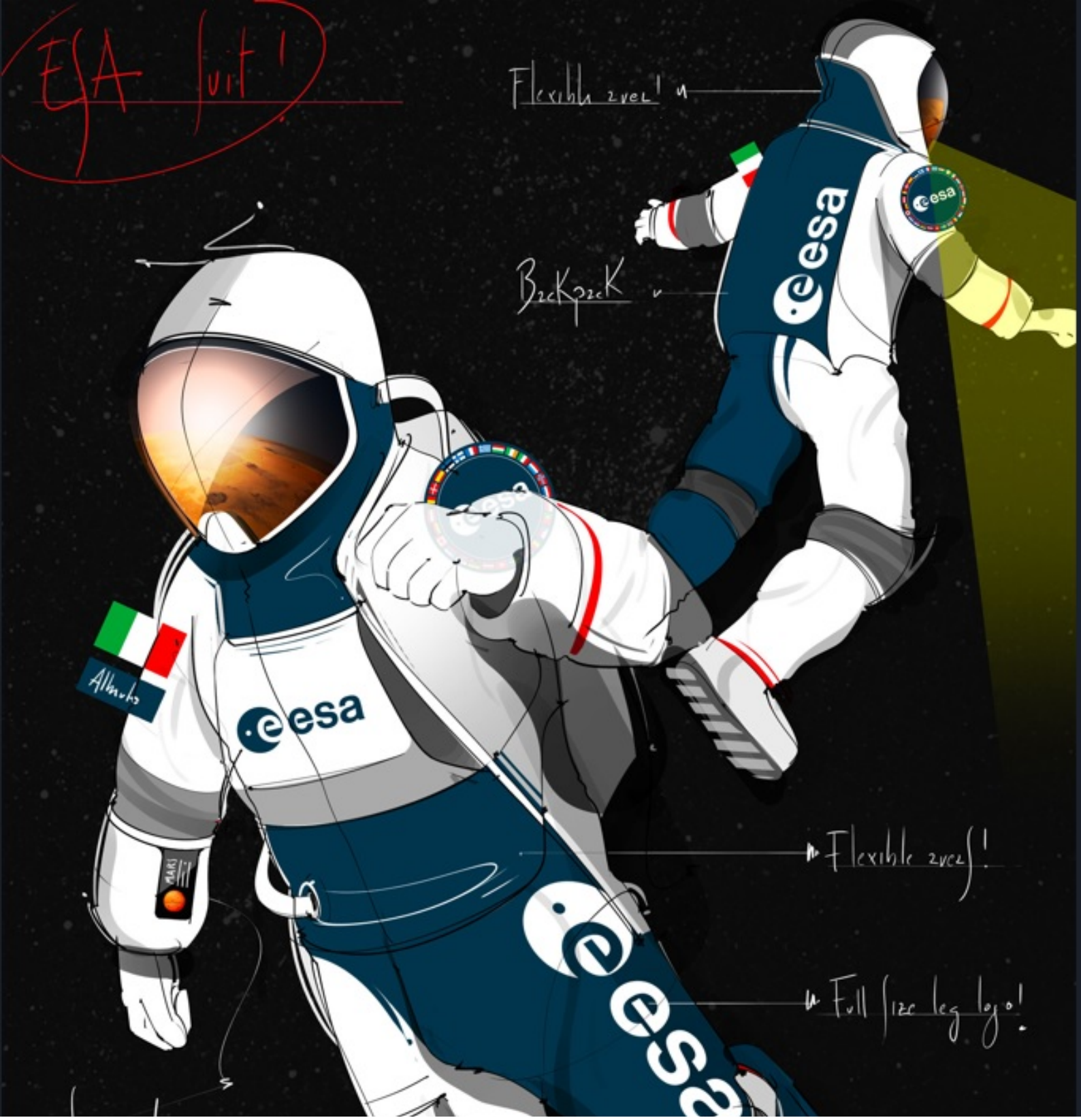


News

ESA Unveils more Futuristic Spacesuit Designs

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The European Space Agency (ESA) recently concluded its Space Suit Design Competition, which invited members of the public to envision what a future European spacesuit would look like.

The competition received over 90 submissions, and a panel of ESA experts selected five winning designs that were unveiled this week.

While ESA currently relies on Russian and American spacesuits for its astronauts, the competition aimed to inspire new spacesuit concepts that incorporate ESA's visual style and identity. The winning designs featured sleek and futuristic styles with ESA's signature blue and white colors. They also included necessary spacesuit components like a life support system backpack, a protective visor, and mobility joints.

"I am convinced that the time will come in the next decades when an ESA astronaut will wear a European spacesuit to further explore the surfaces of the Moon and Mars," said Hervé Stevenin, Head of EVA and parabolic flight training at ESA's European Astronaut Centre (EAC) in Cologne, Germany.

The winning designers were invited to present their concepts to ESA staff and astronauts at EAC. "With this event at the European Astronaut Centre, our imagination made one small step in this thrilling direction," Stevenin said.

Though ESA has no current plans to build the spacesuits, the designs could potentially be used in future exhibits, films, and multimedia to represent ESA's vision for space exploration. The competition aimed to mark a first step toward developing ESA's spacesuits to enable autonomous space missions.

ESA plans to continue merging elements from the submitted designs to create a cohesive ESA-branded spacesuit concept. The final design will serve to educate and inspire the public about ESA's space activities and goals for the future.

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