

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Astroscale Receives Minister of Science and Technology Policy Award at Japan Venture Awards

February 25, 2020 - Astroscale Holdings Inc. ("Astroscale"), the market-leader in developing technology and services to remove space debris and secure long-term orbital sustainability, received the Minister of Science and Technology Policy Award, the second highest honor at the Japan Venture Awards (JVA).

JVA recognizes entrepreneurs who are trying to create new businesses and open up markets, while being a role model for society and fostering leaders who will inspire the next generation. The Minister of Science and Technology Policy Award was launched this year for entrepreneurs who contribute to the development of science, technology and innovation, and Astroscale was selected for its unique and innovative approach to solving the space debris issue.

Nobu Okada, Founder and CEO of Astroscale, accepted the award from the Minister of State for Science and Technology Policy, Naokazu Takemoto, at the Toranomon Hills Forum and commented:

"Everyone at Astroscale is working hard to achieve our mission and it is encouraging to be recognized with this award," said Okada. "Space debris removal and protecting the space environment is not something which can be done by one company or one country, and there are many people here who have supported our mission and I would like to take this opportunity to share this award with you all. As we enter a new decade, this award has renewed my determination to lead us into an era of orbital sustainability for the benefit of future generations."

This distinction adds to a series of awards the company has received this year, including a grant of up to US \$4.5 million from the Tokyo Metropolitan Government's "Innovation Tokyo Project" to build a roadmap for commercializing debris removal services. Most recently, Astroscale was selected as the commercial partner for Phase I of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency's first debris removal project. Astroscale's End-of-Life Services by Astroscale-demonstration (ELSA-d) mission, the world's first demonstration of commercial orbital debris removal, is close to completing crucial environmental tests and will launch in the second half of 2020.

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## About Astroscale

Astroscale is the first private company with a mission to secure long-term spaceflight safety and orbital sustainability for the benefit of future generations. Founded in 2013, Astroscale is developing innovative and scalable solutions for satellite end-of-life and active debris removal services to mitigate the growing and hazardous buildup of debris in space. Headquartered in Japan with offices in Singapore, the United

Kingdom and the United States, Astroscale is a rapidly expanding venture company, preparing to solve a growing environmental concern.

For more about Astroscale, visit: <u>www.astroscale.com</u>

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