KYNTHOS

ROLE BRIEF · NOVEMBER 2026

VP of Engineering

Greater Seattle area, hybrid; remote in the United States considered. Full time.

ABOUT KYNTHOS

Kynthos is developing custody tracking and analytics of objects in extra-geosynchronous orbit (xGEO) and to the Moon, cooperative or not, to be delivered as a software service. Custody means holding an object inside a stated uncertainty bound and revisiting it often enough to find it again. Kynthos flies no sensors of its own at the start: it buys or rents time on ground-based optical and radar sensors and on partner sensors in orbit, decides where each should look next, and fuses what they return into one custody record per object. For finer and more continuous custody, and for custody out of ground contact, it plans to fly its own constellation of optical observers. Cislunar space is nearly empty, yet it has produced a near miss between two lunar orbiters (2021) and rocket-stage impacts (2022, 2026); 116 to about 330 lunar missions are planned over the next decade. Cislunar threat detection is national policy (Executive Order 14369), and Federal Communications Commission (FCC) order 26-47 will require lunar operators to register with an approved space situational awareness provider. Kynthos, Inc. has filed two provisional patents, is in STAGE's first cohort and is preparing a pre-seed round.

THE ROLE

Builds and leads the software that turns observations into custody, from short-arc orbit determination in multi-body dynamics to information-gain sensor tasking and the signed catalog, and the team that ships it, and in Phase 2 the Kynthos observer constellation it tasks. The founder brings optics, sensors and embedded systems; this seat brings estimation software proven in operations.

THE FIRST TWO PROOFS

- A custody pipeline running on real data in the first months after the close.
- A pre-registered benchmark, co-signed with a university partner, in which adaptive tasking must hold 1.5 times the objects of the strongest published non-adaptive scheduler.

WHO FITS

- Eight to twenty years shipping orbit determination, multi-target tracking, sensor-tasking, flight-dynamics or mission-operations software into live operations, at principal to VP level.
- Cislunar or space domain awareness depth is the strongest differentiator.
- US person (export control); clearance-eligible preferred.

TERMS

- Restricted stock and a base salary from the close of the round that funds the seat; any earlier work is on advisor or consulting terms.
- **Process:** a conversation with the founder, an architecture session on published material, a mutual non-disclosure agreement, a working session on the benchmark protocol, and references.

Sources: ISRO, 2021; NASA, 2022 and 2026; Analysys Mason; Novaspace; 90 FR 60537; FCC 26-47; USPTO; GeekWire, 2026.

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