



# THE SUNDAY TIMES



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## Security in satellites

It's not just rocket companies enjoying the hype over space. British start-up **Arqit** is also taking advantage of it to launch a Spac in the US. Arqit, which has support from the government's pandemic Future Fund, is a cybersecurity firm specialising in quantum encryption, which chairman and founder David Williams claims is an upgrade to existing online protection. "The cybersecurity technology we're all using today is failing us," he said. Arqit, which has already struck a deal with BT to sell its products, which have been in development for four years, plans to launch its first two satellites into space in 2023 from Spaceport Cornwall on board Virgin Orbit's LauncherOne. How is all this going to be funded? A Spac, of course. The company is going public on Nasdaq in a \$1.4 billion (£1 billion) deal, which Williams said should be complete by mid-September.