

Clemens Heese joined the European Space Agency, Noordwijk, The Netherlands, in 2012 as an OptoElectronics Engineer. He graduated from University of Münster, Germany, as an applied physicist and received a doctoral degree from ETH Zürich in Switzerland (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology) for his work on high-power mid-infrared femtosecond laser physics.

At ESA/ESTEC he managed the Opto-Electronics laboratory, ESA's 1m Optical Ground Station on Tenerife and projects related to optical communication and quantum key distribution. He has been project manager and technical officer for various optical space terminal and ground station developments.

Since 2016 he actively supports the CCSDS SLS-OPT working group, coordinating optical telecommunication standardisation related development activities within the Agency.

Since 2020 he continues his work on optical ground stations at ESA/ESOC, Germany, as the 'Head of the Optical Technologies Section', developing ESA's operational optical ground stations for communication, ranging and space debris observation.

