**Eleon and Funcom Partner to Expand Empyrion’s Sandbox Survival Universe**

The partnership will deliver fans new installments in the popular survival sandbox universe, starting with Dark Faction, the first ever expansion to the original Empyrion – Galactic Survival.

**Oslo, Norway – January 9, 2023** – Funcom and Eleon Game Studios announced today a new partnership that will give the *Empyrion* developers freedom to focus entirely on development of future *Empyrion* projects, while Funcom contributes with funding and publishing services. Besides a new unannounced *Empyrion* title, the two companies are also bringing *Dark Faction*, the first ever expansion to the original game, to Steam and Epic Games Store on February 6, 2024.

[[YT TEASER LINK](https://youtu.be/BPx893Bd71g)]

The small international development team is based in Lausanne, Switzerland and have worked on *Empyrion – Galactic Survival,* the galaxy-spanning survival sandbox game,since 2015, continuously improving and expanding the experience. Since then, well over a million players have survived on a multitude of varied planets and built their own entirely custom spaceships to explore the mysteries of the galaxy. Now, with Funcom taking the reins on publishing, the team has been free to pursue even more ambitious additions.

In *Empyrion’s* first ever Expansion, discover a terrifying threat to the entire galaxy: an almost indestructible organism driven to spread and take over any life it touches. The brand-new scenario explores a darker side of the *Empyrion* galaxy, plunging you into an intense survival story from the get-go, while also providing an improved onboarding experience.

*Dark Faction* is perfect for both newcomers and veterans of *Empyrion* alike*,* offering new mechanics, including improved melee combat, new materials to build with, and mysteries to discover.

"Working with the team at Eleon Game Studios is a real privilege," said Erling Ellingsen, Chief Marketing Officer at Funcom. "As a developer and publisher of open world survival game ourselves, *Empyrion* has been a favorite among many at Funcom and we're excited for the opportunity to help Eleon expand this universe. Not only with *Dark Faction*, but also with even bigger things in the future."

Eric Lucas, one of Eleon Game Studios’ founders, mentioned, “In my opinion, *Empyrion - Galactic Survival* has not yet reached its full potential. With Funcom's deep expertise in survival and space games, they are the perfect partner to allow us to scale up the *Empyrion* universe to its complete original vision with a big step up in quality. We are really delighted and proud to work with Funcom's great team on what’s to come!”

With Eleon Games’ entire team devoted to development, they are also preparing for their next flagship installment in the *Empyrion* universe, and with Funcom’s recent publishing record, including Shiro Games’ *Dune: Spice Wars* and The Outsiders’ multi-award winning *Metal: Hellsinger*, thrusters are blasting at full power towards the future of space-faring survival.

The *Dark Faction* Expansion for *Empyrion – Galactic Survival* launches on Steam and Epic Games Store February 6, 2024.

**ABOUT FUNCOM**
 **Funcom is a developer and publisher of online games for PC and consoles. Funcom has provided outstanding entertainment since 1993 and continues to expand its track-record of more than twenty released games. Titles include ‘Conan Exiles‘, ‘Secret World Legends, ‘Age of Conan: Hyborian Adventures’, ‘The Longest Journey', 'Anarchy Online', 'The Park', and 'Dreamfall: The Longest Journey'.**

**ABOUT ELEON GAME STUDIOS**
**Eleon Game Studios is an independent PC and console game development studio founded in 2015. Dedicated to open world sandbox games with strong block-by-block building systems and exploration in space and on planets, their first released title, 'Empyrion - Galactic Survival', is still being expanded.**