



Press release

Galileo: Spaceopal (Telespazio/DLR-GfR) awarded the management of the European satellite navigation programme's operations

Brussels, December 15, 2016 - Spaceopal, equal joint venture between Telespazio (Leonardo-Finmeccanica/Thales) and DLR-GfR (subsidiary of the German Space Agency DLR) won the GSOp (Galileo System Operator) tender, issued by the GSA (European GNSS Agency) for managing the operations of the European Galileo satellite positioning and navigation programme.

In the presence of the European Commissioner for the Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs, Elżbieta Bieńkowska, the contract was signed today in Brussels, at the headquarters of the European Commission, by Carlo des Dorides, Executive Director of the GSA, by Giuseppe Lenzo and Simon Plum, respectively CEO and COO of Spaceopal. The contract will run for ten years, with a value of up to EUR 1.5 billion.

Spaceopal will assume responsibility for managing the Galileo satellite system and its performance: in particular, the operations and control of the system, its security, logistics and maintenance of the systems and infrastructure, the user support services.

The GSOp contract extends the scope of activities that Spaceopal has carried out for the Galileo programme since 2010, and includes the overall responsibility for the system's operations and its global maintenance.

The company will carry out these activities through the two control Galileo Centres in Fucino (at Telespazio's "Piero Fanti" Space Centre in the L'Aquila province) and Oberpfaffenhofen (at the DLR site near Munich), as well as the GNSS Service Centre (Madrid) and a network of sites and stations distributed around the globe and connected by the Galileo Data Distribution network.

Spaceopal leads an industrial team that includes the participation of Telespazio and DLR-GfR, Vitrociset Belgium, SES Techcom, T-Systems, INECO, CNES, INRIM and TASF, ESOC.

Giuseppe Lenzo, CEO of Spaceopal, said: "Spaceopal is honoured and proud to have been selected by the European GNSS Agency as the Galileo System Operator for the next decade. Together with our partners of DLR and Telespazio, and the members of our core team, we have submitted a very reliable and highly competitive proposal, gathering many of the best available competence and capabilities across Europe. It is a privilege to be in the position to continue to support the deployment of the first European Space infrastructure, Galileo, and to contribute to the development of Galileo Services for European and international users".

In addition to the planned activities in the Operations field, Spaceopal will provide a fundamental contribution to the development of the Galileo services through a GNSS Competence Cluster, which leverages the experience of its shareholders Telespazio and DLR-GfR and the other GSOp industrial partners, and through an international ecosystem of entities heavily engaged in application development, made up of institutes, Research Agencies, leading companies and SMEs (Agenzia Spaziale Italiana, Austro Control, BavAIRia, Catapult, Cesah, Deutschen Zentrums für Luft- und

Raumfahrt (DLR), ERF, Fraunhofer IIS, Globant, Hexagon, Hexagon Geospatial, IABG, IBM, IFEN, IFSTTAR, Indra, ITS Hessen, KSAT, NSL, Qascom, Scisys, Septentrio, Sogei, SUR, Thales Avionics).

About Spaceopal

Spaceopal GmbH, with headquarters in Munich, is a joint venture founded in 2009 by the partners DLR Gesellschaft für Raumfahrtanwendungen (GfR) mbH and Telespazio S.p.A. Since November 2010 Spaceopal has been the main contractor for operational services for Galileo, the European Union's global satellite navigation system. Through its core business activities, Spaceopal is making a key contribution to Europe's performance in the field of Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS). www.spaceopal.com

Press contact: Miriam Poetter miriam.poetter@dlr.de

About Telespazio

Telespazio, a Leonardo and Thales 67/33 joint venture, is one of the world's leading operators in satellite services. Its activities range from the design and development of space systems to the management of launch services, from in-orbit satellite control to Earth observation, from integrated communications, satellite navigation and localisation services to scientific programmes. Telespazio plays a leading role in the reference markets harnessing technological experience acquired over the years. Since its establishment, the company has participated in major European space programmes such as Galileo, EGNOS, Copernicus and COSMO-SkyMed. In 2015, Telespazio generated sales of EUR 632 million while employing approximately 2,500 people in eight countries. www.telespazio.com

Press contact. Paolo Mazzetti Tel: +39 335 6515994 paolo.mazzetti@telespazio.com

About DLR

DLR is the national aeronautics and space research centre of the Federal Republic of Germany. Its extensive research and development work in aeronautics, space, energy, transport and security is integrated into national and international cooperative ventures. In addition to its own research, as Germany's space agency, DLR has been given responsibility by the federal government for the planning and implementation of the German space programme. DLR is also the umbrella organisation for the nation's largest project management agency.