

## ***COSMO-SkyMed: The Italian Satellite System for Earth Observation for the Management of Environmental Risks, Defence and Security***

### **Thales Alenia Space, Telespazio and SELEX Galileo's role**

COSMO-SkyMed is a program conceived in the frame of an agreement between the Italian Space Agency (ASI), the Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of Universities and Research (MIUR). Thales Alenia Space is the program prime contractor, responsible for the development and construction of the entire COSMO-SkyMed system.

Telespazio (a Finmeccanica/Thales joint venture) was responsible for building the civil and military ground segments of the system, and now controls the constellation's in-orbit operations.

e-GEOS, a joint venture between the Italian Space Agency (20%) and Telespazio (80%) is responsible for the acquisition and processing of COSMO-SkyMed data, and sells it on the international market.

The COSMO-SkyMed programme also contains numerous types of equipment supplied by SELEX Galileo.

#### **Thales Alenia Space's role**

The COSMO-SkyMed space constellation has been developed by Thales Alenia Space Italia (joint-venture of Thales – 67% - and Finmeccanica – 33%) with the important role of program prime contractor, responsible for the development and construction of the entire COSMO-SkyMed system, including the ground and space segment.

As leading role, Thales Alenia Space Italia is the principal creator of the high resolution X-Band Synthetic Aperture Radar, technological heart of the COSMO-SkyMed system and a “state-of-the-art” instrument, the result of the long experience gained by Thales Alenia Space Italia during more than 25 years of space radar activities for Earth observation and for the exploration of the Solar System.

Moreover, every COSMO-SkyMed satellite is based on the PRIMA platform of Thales Alenia Space which provides all services (power, propulsion, thermal control, telemetry and remote controls, attitude control) for orbital life and payload operations.

European leader for satellite systems and at the forefront of orbital infrastructures, Thales Alenia Space is today a worldwide reference in radar and optical Earth observation, with a prominent position in the major European programs such as GMES and MTG.

#### **Telespazio's role**

Telespazio, a joint venture between Finmeccanica (67%) and Thales (33%), is one of the leading global operators in space services and has played a key role in the development of the COSMO-SkyMed programme. The company built the system's entire ground segment and the integrated logistics/operations segment. Telespazio's Space Centre in Fucino houses the control centre for the constellation, which manages the satellite acquisition phases after launch and subsequent early orbit phases, as well as command and control activities and the planning of applications for the acquisition of images.



The Matera Space Centre, managed by e-GEOS – a joint venture between the Italian Space Agency (20%) and Telespazio (80%) – is responsible for the acquisition, processing and distribution of the data gathered by the COSMO-SkyMed satellites for civil applications. e-GEOS sells COSMO-SkyMed data and products on the international market, by developing application services for disaster management, territorial and environmental protection and the monitoring of natural resources.

### **SELEX Galileo's role**

The COSMO SkyMed mission features a significant contribution from SELEX Galileo, a Finmeccanica Company and leader in Space exploration technologies. SELEX Galileo is Thales Alenia Space's main supplier for the development and production of the 4 satellites, and supplies critical equipment including photovoltaic assemblies, star trackers, power regulation and distribution units for platform and RADAR instruments, and the RF signal amplification, conversion and modulation unit. SELEX Galileo is a leader in Europe for products such as these.

### **For further information:**

*Press office Thales Alenia Space: Tiziana Ebanò - Tel: +39 06 41512574; Cell 335 6612667*  
[tiziana.ebano@thalesaleniaspace.com](mailto:tiziana.ebano@thalesaleniaspace.com)

*Press office Telespazio: Paolo Mazzetti - Tel: 06 40796252; Cell 335 6515994*  
[paolo.mazzetti@telespazio.com](mailto:paolo.mazzetti@telespazio.com)

*Press office SELEX Galileo: Solange Distefano Tel. 06 41883710; Cell 335 7499374*  
[solangedistefanopozzuoli@selexgalileo.com](mailto:solangedistefanopozzuoli@selexgalileo.com)

