

Rome, 19 December 2008

**Telespazio (Finmeccanica/Thales) wins contract in Turkey worth more than 250 million Euro for the Göktürk satellite system**

Telespazio, a Finmeccanica/Thales company, has won a tender as prime contractor, supported by Thales Alenia Space (a Thales/Finmeccanica company), from the Turkish Ministry of Defence for the Göktürk satellite system.

The programme has a total value of more than 250 million Euro.

The agreement covers the supply of an Earth observation satellite equipped with a high-resolution optical sensor, an integration and test centre for satellites to be built in Turkey, and the entire ground segment of the system, which will carry out in-orbit operation, data acquisition and processing. Telespazio will also provide all satellite launch and test services.

Telespazio's offer, which involves local industry on a significant scale, fully met the requirements of the Turkish defence authorities, which chose the Finmeccanica company from a large number of bidders. As part of the project, Telespazio will create a joint venture with a local partner to develop and market application services.

Telespazio and Thales Alenia Space are part of the Space Alliance created in 2007 between Finmeccanica and Thales; they contribute, in the fields of space services and satellite systems respectively, to the global development of the space sector.