

Rome, 29 March 2007

Technological partnership agreement between Vatican Radio and Telespazio (Finmeccanica/Alcatel)

Vatican Radio and Telespazio, a Finmeccanica/Alcatel company, today signed a technological partnership agreement for audio channel satellite broadcasting.

The service provided by Telespazio consists of transporting audio channels by landline from Vatican Radio's Palazzo Pio headquarters to the Fucino space centre, and subsequent global broadcast via satellite on band C to the Atlantic Ocean region (AOR) and Indian Ocean region (IOR).

The remote receiving sites, chiefly local radio broadcasters, then relay the content in FM, in some cases converting it to medium or short wave.

Telespazio has paid particular attention to safeguarding service continuity during switches from old to new equipment, among other things providing support for remote receiving sites via a dedicated technical help desk at the Fucino space centre.

The ceremony, held at the Vatican City governorate, was attended by His Excellency Rev.ma Mons. Renato Boccardo (secretary-general of the governorate), the Rev. P. Federico Lombardi (Vatican Radio director-general), and Prof. Giuseppe Veredice, chief executive of Telespazio.