

Toulouse, 21 April 2008

## **Telespazio (Finmeccanica/Thales) takes part in the Toulouse Space Show 2008**

Telespazio, a Finmeccanica/Thales company, is to take part in the Toulouse Space Show - the international exhibition dedicated to space applications - which will take place from 22 to 25 April at the Centre de Congrès Pierre Baudis in Toulouse, France.

A partner in the **Space Alliance** between Finmeccanica and Thales, Telespazio is one of the world's leading players in satellite services. In Toulouse, the company will present its activities in satellite navigation and localisation, Earth observation and space services.

Telespazio operates in France through the subsidiary **Telespazio France**, a company specialising in services supporting space launches and value-added telecommunications services. At the show, the company, which is based in Toulouse and at the Kourou Space Centre in French Guiana, will present some of the services it has developed in telemedicine, including an application that monitors patients suffering from Alzheimer's via satellite.

In 2007 Telespazio strengthened its presence in France with the acquisition of 85% of **Fileas**, a company specialising in news, image and data transmission by satellite.

At the Toulouse Space Show, Telespazio will demonstrate its role in European satellite navigation programme **Galileo**, in which it is responsible for establishing one of the mission control stations for the 30-satellite constellation at the Fucino Space Centre, 100 km from Rome. Furthermore, Telespazio is to set up one of the Signal Performance Validation Centres, and plays a leading role in managing the Galileo Test Range (Gtr), the permanent laboratory in Rome, which will support the development of the Galileo system, equipment and applications.

Using a multimedia simulator, Telespazio will also present in Toulouse a range of Earth observation satellite applications, based on **COSMO-SkyMed** radar data, for monitoring and managing natural risks (e.g. oil spills, floods, volcanic eruptions). Telespazio plays a leading role in the development of the COSMO-SkyMed programme, financed by the Italian Space Agency and the Ministry of Defence, which consists of four radar satellites that can operate in any atmospheric conditions, day or night, and can support both civil and military applications. The COSMO-SkyMed constellation, the last two satellites of which will be launched in 2008 and 2009, is controlled by Telespazio's Space Centre in Fucino, while the data captured by the satellites for civil applications will be collected and processed by the Matera Space Centre.

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**Telespazio**, a joint venture between Finmeccanica (67%) and Thales (33%), is a world leader in satellite services: from management of satellites to Earth observation services, from satellite navigation to broadband multimedia telecommunications. Telespazio plays a leading role in the reference markets harnessing technological experience acquired over the years and through its participation in major European space programs such as: GALILEO, EGNOS, GMES and COSMO-SkyMed.