



Washington D.C., 11 March 2011

## **Telespazio (Finmeccanica/Thales) to participate in *Satellite 2011***

Telespazio, a Finmeccanica/Thales company, is to take part in *Satellite 2011*, the satellite communications and services conference and exhibition. The show, now in its 30th year, will be held at the Washington Convention Center in Washington D.C. from 14 to 17 March.

Telespazio, one of the leading global operators in the space industry, will have a stand in the exhibition area where it will demonstrate its activities in satellite operations, Earth observation, integrated communications and navigation and mobile information services.

On the first of January 2011 Telespazio acquired the space activities of two Finmeccanica companies: VEGA (based in the UK) and Elsag Datamat (based in Italy), strengthening its role as the Finmeccanica Group's centre of excellence in space services and applications, and further expanding its technological expertise and product portfolio.

In Washington, the company will demonstrate its activities in Earth observation, and in particular, through high-resolution optical and radar images, the application solutions provided by the satellites of the **COSMO-SkyMed** constellation, sold worldwide by **e-GEOS**, the company created by Telespazio and the Italian Space Agency (ASI). Thanks to its long-standing experience in this sector, Telespazio takes part in the main European programmes in the sector, such as **GMES** (Global Monitoring for Environment and Security).

As prime contractor, the company is building the **Göktürk** satellite system for the Turkish Ministry of Defence, which includes a high-resolution optical satellite, the ground segment, launch services and an integration and test centre.

Telespazio also plays a strategic role in military satellite communications (Milsatcom), through its participation, as key partner to the Italian Ministry of Defence, in the **SICRAL** programme. At *Satellite 2011*, the company will also present services based on the capacity of **ATHENA-FIDUS**, the new French-Italian dual-use Ka-band telecommunications satellite system that will become operational in 2013. Telespazio will provide capacities in the design, integration and testing of the ground segment.

Finally, Telespazio will present its activities in the satellite operations. For 50 years, the company has provided space agencies and international operators with services covering all phases of space missions, including the launch, the move into its final orbital position, and the control and management of the operational life of the satellites.

In 2010, one of the control centres (GCC) that will manage the 30 satellites and the operational activities of the European satellite navigation system **Galileo** was opened at the Fucino Space Centre. The Galileo Centre in Fucino will specifically handle the transmission

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**Telespazio**, a joint venture between Finmeccanica (67%) and Thales (33%), is one of the world's leading operators in satellite management services, Earth observation and satellite navigation, as well as in the field of integrated communications and scientific programmes. Telespazio plays a leading role in the reference markets harnessing technological experience acquired over the years and through its participation in major European space programmes such as: Galileo, EGNOS, GMES and COSMO-SkyMed. The company in 2009 generated sales of EUR 372 million, and employed around 2,500 staff.

of the navigation signal to the satellites, guaranteeing the quality of service provided to end users. The operations of the Galileo Control Centre at Fucino – and those of the centre built by the German Aerospace Centre in Oberpfaffenhofen – will be managed by **Spaceopal**, a joint venture between Telespazio and DLR-GfR (the company set up by the German Aerospace Centre).