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Telespazio (Finmeccanica/Thales) takes part in IDEF 2011

Telespazio, a Finmeccanica/Thales company, is taking part in IDEF (International Defence Industry Fair) 2011, to be held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 10 to 13 of May. The company, one of the world's leading operators in satellite services, will present the Göktürk satellite system and the applications of the COSMO-SkyMed satellite constellation at the Finmeccanica Group stand.

Telespazio is strongly interested in developing its commercial offer in the Turkish market by providing a range of products and applications for both the institutional and the business market. One of the first great successes for the company was winning the tender for the first Turkish Earth observation system, **Göktürk**.

The agreement signed in Ankara in 2009 between Telespazio and Turkey's Undersecretariat for Defence Industries (SSM – Ministry of Defence) covers the construction of an Earth observation satellite equipped with a high-resolution optical sensor, to be launched in 2013. Telespazio will also build a satellite integration and testing centre in Turkey, as well as the entire ground segment for the system to carry out in-orbit operation and data acquisition and processing.

The Göktürk programme is managed by Telespazio as prime contractor, Thales Alenia Space, a company owned by Thales (67%) and Finmeccanica (33%), which will be responsible for the satellite, and local industrial partners including Tai A.S., Aselsan A.S., Tubitak Uekae, Roketsan A.S. and TR Technoloji. Telespazio will also be responsible for the satellite launch, early orbit and test services.

Telespazio will establish a joint venture with local partners to develop and market Göktürk data and application services.

At IDEF, Telespazio will also present the applications of **COSMO-SkyMed**, the innovative Italian radar satellite system financed by the Italian Space Agency (ASI) and the Ministry of Defence. The four COSMO-SkyMed satellites are able to “monitor” our planet day and night, in any atmospheric conditions and with very frequent revisit times.

COSMO-SkyMed data, sold worldwide by **e-GEOS**, an ASI/Telespazio company, enables application services in the field of maritime surveillance, the detection of ships almost in real time, local monitoring services, border control, emergency management and rapid mapping for prevention, damage assessment and support in the event of natural disasters (earthquakes, floods and volcanic activity).

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 2010 generated sales of EUR 437 million, and employed around 2,500 staff.