

Toulouse, 25 November 2008

**Telespazio France (Finmeccanica/Thales) signs a new large contract with CNES to perform satellite control and ground station services for the French space agency.**

Telespazio France, subsidiary of Telespazio (Finmeccanica/Thales), has been selected by CNES (*Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales*), the French Space Agency, to perform control services of its satellites and related missions along with operational maintenance of its satellite early phase and ground stations network.

With this new contract, CNES has thus renewed its confidence in Telespazio France to undertake all current satellite operations (Spot, Telecom2, Jason, Demeter, Corot, etc.) during the period 2009-2013 as well as important future programs, especially the Pleiades mini-satellites, ATV and positioning of future Galileo satellites.

*"Two years after the renewed support contract for Guiana Space Center operations, we appreciate CNES' continued confidence in the expertise of our teams, whom I would like to thank for their hard work and adaptability for these increasingly complex missions"* stated Olivier Colaitis – CEO, Telespazio France.

Giuseppe Veredice, CEO of the Telespazio Holding, added: *"This contract reinforces our desire to develop our position of leading supplier of satellite services in France, after acquiring interest in Fileas, and more recently, in NovaCom Services."*

About Telespazio France

*Telespazio France is the French subsidiary of Telespazio, a leading worldwide supplier of satellite services. Based in Toulouse, and with a large branch in Kourou, the company operates from the sites of its – institutional or private – customers, maintains multiple ground infrastructures and markets Telespazio value-added services in France. [www.telespazio.com/fr](http://www.telespazio.com/fr)*