

Company Profile



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. The Rome-based company employs around 1,900 staff, and operates a network of four space centres and 25 sites spread all over the world. Notably, these include the Fucino Space Centre, which has more than 90 operational antennas, and is the largest satellite telecommunications centre in the world for civil use. 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 is member of the **Space Alliance** between Finmeccanica and Thales.

Telespazio business areas are:

Satellite operations - For over 40 years, Telespazio has been providing integrated solutions covering the space mission value chain: definition, development and integration of the ground segment with control stations and centres, as well as launch assistance and satellite orbit positioning (*Launch and Early Orbit Phase*). Telespazio provides telemetry services, TT&C (*Tracking, Telemetry and Command*), operations and ground segment management. These services are provided to the large satellite operators, international space agencies, government bodies and manufacturing companies.

Milsatcom - The company is the primary satellite service provider for the Italian Ministry of Defence. Telespazio's strategic role in milsatcom is clearly evidenced by its involvement in the Italian **SICRAL** constellation. In the SICRAL 1 program, the country's first military communications satellite, Telespazio managed the LEOP and various tasks related to ground segment design, procurement, integration and testing. This success has encouraged the Italian Ministry of Defence to go ahead with new missions funded by Public-Private Partnerships. The new SICRAL 1B satellite, launched in 2009, was co-financed by Telespazio, which will have access to some of the transmission capacity, allowing the company to offer telecommunications services to NATO countries and the European and US defence markets. Telespazio will also play a similar role in future SICRAL 2 and ATHENA FIDUS programmes.

Earth Observation - Thanks to its wealth of experience in the Earth observation sector, Telespazio plays a leading role in the major international programmes. These include the European programme **GMES**, which will provide monitoring services for the environment and security, and **COSMO-SkyMed**, a programme run by the Italian Space Agency and Italy's defence ministry, based on a constellation of four radar satellites that can operate in any atmospheric conditions. With **e-GEOS** (80% Telespazio, 20% ASI), Telespazio carries out all Earth Observation commercial activities: from acquiring and processing satellite data, to the development and sale of software and products, as well as associated marketing activities. Telespazio's services are mainly directed towards agencies and companies performing land use control studies, civil protection,

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disaster management, cartography, agricultural applications and geomarketing. e-GEOS is responsible for COSMO-SkyMed commercialization worldwide.

Integrated Communications - With its long track record in the satellite telecommunications sector, and thanks to a portfolio of cutting-edge products and services, Telespazio offers its clients secure, reliable and globally available solutions. The company develops and markets new services for satellite systems, as well as building and managing communications networks that integrate satellite and ground-based infrastructure, with the aim of responding effectively to the needs of the business and institutional markets, media and broadcast sectors, and global telecommunications operators. Telespazio offers dedicated services for the oil and gas, transport and navigation markets, implementing fixed-line and mobile broadband solutions in Italy and abroad. The company provides innovative solutions for applications and services in the fields of homeland security, telemedicine, e-government and distance learning. Furthermore, Telespazio is the Italian market leader and a major European player in radio and television broadcasting thanks to its facilities at the space centres in Fucino and Lario, its fleet of vehicles and the equipment it installs and manages at clients' premises.

Navigation and Infomobility - Telespazio is Finmeccanica's key operator in navigation and localisation services, a role confirmed by its contribution to the development of **Galileo**, the European satellite navigation programme, and the EGNOS (European Geostationary Overlay Navigation System) programme. One of the control centres that will manage the Galileo constellation and mission has been built at the Telespazio Fucino Space Centre. Telespazio will also have the task of setting up the performance validation centre for the Galileo system and signal. In Rome, Telespazio has played a leading role in the construction and management of the Galileo Test Range (Gtr), the multifunctional technological infrastructure for satellite navigation that will support the development of the system, applications, navigation and positioning equipment.

Scientific Programmes - Telespazio carries out experiments on board the International Space Station (ISS), ranging from the integration of payloads to their in-orbit operation, astronaut training and the dissemination of the scientific data obtained. The experiments carried out on inhabited platforms have proved useful in the field of scientific missions and exploration, especially in the Lunar and Mars exploration programmes promoted by the European Space Agency (ESA) and Italian Space Agency (ASI). Lastly, a growing area of activity is the study of near-Earth objects (NEOs), small celestial bodies at risk of colliding with the Earth. Telespazio plays an active role both in research for direct exploration missions to NEOs and in the ESA's Space Situational Awareness programme.