



PRESS RELEASE

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GSA Signs Galileo Service Operator Contract

Following a complex tendering process that began in January 2015, the European GNSS Agency (GSA) has awarded the Galileo Service Operator (GSOp) contract, with a value of up to EUR 1.5 billion, to Spaceopal at a special event in Brussels. Spaceopal is a joint venture between Telespazio and the German Space Agency (DLR).

The 10-year contract covers the operation and maintenance of the Galileo satellite system and its committed performance level: in particular, the operations and control of the system, the logistics and maintenance of the systems and infrastructure as well as the user support services.

“With its emphasis on service performance, this contract will shape the future of Galileo. We look forward to building a strong partnership with Spaceopal as Galileo moves towards full operational capability under the responsibility of the GSA from January 2017,” says GSA Executive Director Carlo des Dorides.

Specifically, under GSA management the contract awarded to Spaceopal includes:

- Secure operations of Galileo from two mission control centres (GCC), located in Germany and Italy, and the European GNSS Service Centre (GSC) for user support services in Spain;
- Management of the Galileo Data Distribution Network (GDDN);
- Integrated logistics support and maintenance for the entire space and ground infrastructure;
- Monitoring of the system performance;
- Support the completion of the Galileo infrastructure and associated launches.

To ensure a balance between ongoing deployment needs and the priority of the service provision, the contract includes clear and tangible performance indicators (KPIs).

Spaceopal served as the contractor for Galileo operations since 2010 under the Galileo Full Operational Capability (FOC) Operations Framework Contract. “Spaceopal is committed to continuing to support the deployment and completion of the Galileo system,” says Spaceopal CEO Giuseppe Lenzo. “We are proud that the GSA has selected us to further contribute by bringing the Galileo signal in space to users and providing best-in-class satellite navigation services.”

The contract was signed by Carlo des Dorides, on behalf of the GSA, and for Spaceopal by Giuseppe Lenzo and Simon Plum, the company’s COO, at an official ceremony held today in Brussels. The ceremony was featured in an event organised on the occasion of the European Commission’s declaration of Galileo Initial Services.

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