

MyGalileoDrone contest open for submissions!

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The European GNSS Agency (GSA), the operational agency of the European Commission for Galileo and EGNOS, is launching its MyGalileoDrone competition on July 17. This contest is targeting the design and development of drone-based applications or services, using a Galileo-enabled receiver, that address the EU's key priorities such as the Green Deal, and support the EU Recovery Plan for Europe. Initial ideas should be submitted by 31 August. A wide participation from all Member States is expected.

The MyGalileoDrone competition seeks to tap into the EU's innovative spirit to deliver applications and services to boost Europe's competitiveness, resilience and sustainability. Applications should leverage and demonstrate Galileo's added value, such as increased accuracy, availability and robustness of position, as well as integrity for a solution based on drone operations.

Drones applications: seizing the business opportunity

The market related to drone applications and services is growing rapidly and European drone service revenues are expected to reach EUR 250 million by 2025. The European demand is estimated to reach EUR 10 billion annually, in nominal terms, to 2035 and over EUR 15 billion annually to 2050, creating more than 100,000 jobs.

With GNSS receivers implemented on almost all new commercial drones, Galileo's and EGNOS' added value is pivotal for the development and growth of drone services and applications.

In addition to designing and developing the application, contestants should prepare their drone-based application or service for commercial launch. The solution should leverage Galileo to provide a position fix. The use of EGNSS is understood in the broad sense, and Galileo can be integrated in the flying platform, the ground control station, or in other devices supporting the operation, such as a smartphone or even in the frame of U-Space services.

"GNSS is a key enabling technology in this segment, ensuring robust navigation and reliability for a wide range of applications. The MyGalileoDrone competition aims to bring oxygen to European SMEs and entrepreneurs driving innovation. It will create jobs and growth in this promising market," said Pascal Claudel, Acting Executive Director at the GSA.

Focus on EU priorities

In times of post-COVID recovery focus, submissions should target applications and services that support key EU priorities, but the sky's the limit. The GSA is looking for trailblazing ideas in applications such as smart mobility, sustainable agriculture or environmental protection, or solutions that exploit synergies between 5G and space data, or support the Internet of Things, or why not the next *big thing*.

As the competition will be wide in scope, a broad participation of national and regional ecosystems via companies and research institutions in all Member States is expected.

What's on offer?

The first prize in the MyGalileoDrone competition amounts to EUR 100,000, with EUR 60,000 for second, EUR 40,000 for third, and a fourth prize of EUR 30,000.

Following the official kick-off on July 17, applicants will have until 31 August to submit their applications. The projects selected to advance to the development phase of the contest will be announced on 15 September and they will have until 30 November to develop a demo version of their proposed application or service.

In the finals, the selected teams will perform a live demo and pitch their ideas to investors. During the development process, the applicants will receive mentoring and coaching from recognised experts in the drone market. These experts will accompany them as they build their application, develop tests and get ready from the business perspective to attract investors and move to market.

To register or for more information, check out the [competition page](#) on the GSA website.

An image gallery is available [here](#) please credit © European GNSS Agency

About the European GNSS Agency (GSA)

As an official European Union Regulatory Agency, the European GNSS Agency (GSA) manages public interests related to European GNSS programmes. The GSA's mission is to support European Union objectives and achieve the highest return on European GNSS investment, in terms of benefits to users and economic growth and competitiveness. For more information, visit the GSA [website](#).

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