



Farnborough, 19 July 2010

SELEX Galileo helps European Space missions see more, go further, make discoveries

SELEX Galileo, a Finmeccanica Company, will be promoting its latest Space equipment and instruments to agencies from around the World at Farnborough International Airshow (FIA) 2010. With existing space technology facilities both in Italy and the UK, and a heritage in Space dating back to the 1960s, SELEX Galileo is ideally placed to offer the space technology needed for Earth observation missions and exploration of the Moon, Mars and beyond.

At FIA 2010's Finmeccanica pavilion (OE1 & OE2), the Company's Passive Hydrogen MASER (PHM) will be on display to visitors. The PHM is the most stable space-borne atomic clock ever developed for an operational programme, designed to perform in a space environment for a minimum of 12 years. It is used in precise positioning and time-keeping, and has performed successfully on board the European Space Agency (ESA)'s GIOVE B Satellite. The PHM has also been selected as the reference clock for the new Galileo Full Operational Capability (FOC) constellation of navigation and positioning satellites, a program of and funded by the European Union.

SELEX Galileo's Sea and Land Surface Temperature Radiometer (SLSTR) will also be present at the Finmeccanica Pavilion. The SLSTR, one of the core instruments on the ESA's GMES Sentinel 3 mission, is designed to accurately measure the temperatures of land surfaces and oceans, contributing to environmental research.

SELEX Galileo's proven ability to tune its skills in sensor development and implementation to meet the unique demands of a harsh deep-space environment has brought success in a number of missions with the ESA, NASA and the Agenzia Spaziale Italiana (ASI, Italian Space Agency). A recent scientific result, the discovery of geologically recent lava flows on the surface of Venus, was aided by the Company's VIRTIS thermal imaging spectrometer which provided the never-before-seen levels of clarity that enabled scientists to confirm the discovery.

VIRTIS, which has been selected by ESA as an orbiter payload for the Venus Express mission and for the Rosetta mission to the comet 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko, will be on display on the ASI stand (Hall 3, SZA) alongside other key SELEX Galileo products. Thanks to its outstanding performance, VIRTIS (like) instruments have been provided, through ASI contracts, to NASA's Dawn and Juno missions for planetary exploration.

Attitude sensors, Infrared Earth Sensors and Star Trackers, are the Company's best selling products with over 400 flight units delivered. The APS-based Autonomous Star Tracker (AA-STR) autonomously provides accurate attitude quaternion data at 10 Hz to precisely determine a satellite's position in space, featuring high performance, very low mass and low power consumption.

The ASI-funded PRISMA optical payload is the only observation sensor in Europe with a hyperspectral capability; a model can be seen on the ASI stand. Flying on the PRISMA satellite in 2012, the sensor will return detailed hyperspectral images of the Earth.

SELEX Galileo will also be present at the UK Space Agency (UKSA) stand, supporting the United Kingdom in its Space aspirations. The recent establishment of the UK Space Agency demonstrates the importance European countries place on Space exploration and the impetus for the European Space industry to become a world leader.

SELEX Galileo also plays key roles in several of the most well known Space missions, providing sensors, positioning equipment and observational payloads for programmes such as the International Space Station, ATV, Galileo IOV and FOC, METOP, GMES, ExoMars, Bepi Colombo and others.

Press Office Contacts

Solange Distefano Pozzuoli
Responsible for Press Office

Tel: +39 06 41883710

Mob. +39 335 7499374

email: solange.distefanopozzuoli@selexgalileo.com

John Stevenson

Press Office Coordinator

Tel: +44 (0) 1268 883013

Mob. +44 (0) 7540 628691

email: john.stevenson@selexgalileo.com