NEW HOPE FOR EUROPEAN GNSS APPLICATIONS

Market Shares with Horizon 2020 R&D Funding

The European Space Solutions Conference, recently held in London by the initiative of the European Commission, was witness to very important steps for European GNSS downstream industry, it was claimed in a statement from Galileo Services at the end of January.

The EC Vice-President, Antonio Tajani, and the GSA Executive Director, Carlo des Dorides acknowledge the necessity of EU public funds to support EU GNSS application R&D and to ensure benefits from the growing GNSS application market for Europe.

At the opening plenary session, VP Tajani indeed stressed that GNSS applications and services now are priorities for Europe and “application development needs to be encouraged […] Horizon 2020, the future programme for research and innovation, is the best tool for supporting the development of Galileo applications.” This constitutes good news for the European GNSS downstream industry and is in line with what Galileo Services has been working for many years, it is understood.

Galileo Services looks forward to contributing to secure necessary funding: to facilitate capitalizing on the investments already made in Galileo and EGNOS infrastructure by developing European GNSS downstream industry, to take substantial shares of the global market, and to make European GNSS key elements in a wide variety of applications.

In his speech, Mr des Dorides stated that, “...according to the last market report published by the GSA, the downstream GNSS market is confirmed to be a growing area, despite the economic crisis…” and also that “...with the necessary funds for application development, we can capture the foreseen return on investment and get the most out of this European competitive edge.”

Gard Ueland, Galileo Services Chairman, and Peter Grognard, Galileo Services Vice-Chairman, were also invited to a meeting called by VP Tajani for consulting with the representatives of chip manufactures and Galileo Services. Galileo Services highly welcomes this initiative, which has been presented as a
precursor of the establishment of an industry consultation on how to boost the implementation of applications and services of Galileo.

At the time of the 5th Space Conference and Horizon 2020 workshop on Space Research, Galileo Services stressed the urgency to secure earmarked budget lines for GNSS/Galileo application development within Horizon 2020. Furthermore, it is understood that the required amount is a minimum of €100-€200 million per year in order for Europe to be competitive in a global perspective.

Galileo Services went on to state that it welcomes the newly established cooperation between the European Institutions and European GNSS downstream industry to ensure the full success of European GNSS Programmes.