

**PRESS RELEASE**

Rome, 19 October 2023

Telespazio renews contract with AVIO for maintenance and operational support of the VEGA launch pad

Telespazio, a joint venture between Leonardo (67%) and Thales (33%), has renewed its contract with AVIO for the provision of maintenance and operational support activities for the VEGA launch pad located at the Guiana space centre in French Guiana. The company will ensure the continuity of operations for the period 2023-2025.

The three-year contract has a total value of 2.7 million euros. Telespazio will operate as the prime contractor with the support of its subsidiaries in France and French Guiana, which will act as subcontractors to ensure excellence in service delivery.

Telespazio will manage the control and monitoring systems of the launch pad, including the Vega Monitor and Control system, the automatic intervention call management system (Système Automatique des Appels D'Astreinte - SAAA), and various monitoring and control systems for mechanical infrastructure. Additionally, the company will ensure the continuity of operations for telecommunication and synchronization systems, crucial for the success of space launches, as well as engineering support, essential for operational planning activities and ensuring efficient and safe launch operations.

Telespazio and AVIO are committed to maintaining the highest standards of safety and quality in the services provided, ensuring the success of VEGA launcher launch missions.

"The contract renewal demonstrates AVIO's ongoing confidence in Telespazio's ability to provide reliable and high-quality services, and our shared commitment to contributing to the success of European space missions," said Luigi Pasquali, CEO of Telespazio.

"The recent success of the Vega VV23 mission is also a result of Telespazio's valuable and timely collaboration in launch operations support. The renewal of the contract will ensure the operational continuity needed to make the Vega launch service reliable and competitive in the coming years," said Giulio Ranzo, CEO of AVIO.