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PRESS NOTE

Further successes with Jules Verne ATV for SELEX GALILEO space activities

SELEX GALILEO, part of Finmeccanica, participates to the European Space Agency (ESA) mission Jules Verne ATV launched on the 9th of March from the Kourou spaceport, in French Guiana. The Automatic Transfer Vehicle (ATV) Jules Verne, a new series of spaceships, was launched without a space crew and will reach the International Space Station (ISS) at the beginning of April. The ATV module will remain in orbit for a maximum 6 months and, once completed its tasks, will head back to Earth and disintegrate in the atmosphere.

SELEX GALILEO plays a relevant role in this mission, providing 16 solar panels for four deployable wings covering 34 square meters and supplying up to 4.8 kilowatt of electric power. The solar panels on board Jules Verne, as revealed by ESA, have opened perfectly and are currently transferring the amount of energy required.

SELEX GALILEO has also supplied the Power Control and Distribution Unit (PCDU) on board the spacecraft, for a total amount of 4 units per ATV. Furthermore the Company is responsible for the S-Band Solid State Power Amplifier (SSPA), supplied in two units for each ATV.

The contract awarded to SELEX GALILEO for Jules Verne is worth 15 million Euros. For the next four Automatic Transfer Vehicles which are going to be launched before 2013, SELEX GALILEO has started production activities for the second flight module in the framework of a contract worth 17 million Euros.

Galileo Avionica and SELEX Sensors and Airborne Systems have begun to operate internationally as a single company, within Finmeccanica, known as SELEX GALILEO. As SELEX GALILEO, the two companies jointly represent one of the world's leading defence electronics organisations, providing outstanding capabilities in surveillance, protection, tracking, targeting, navigation & control, imaging systems and space. Further details can be obtained from the website <http://www.selexgalileo.com>

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