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Comunicato Stampa

Galileo Avionica on board the Italian Space Agency's first COSMO SkyMed satellite The satellite launched from the American base of Vandenberg.

Galileo Avionica, a Finmeccanica company and leader in Italy for Space technologies, announces its participation in the COSMO SkyMed programme promoted by the Italian Space Agency (ASI) and the Italian Ministry of Defence.

COSMO SkyMed is a low-orbit four-satellite constellation equipped with a Synthetic Aperture Radar operating in X-band and capable of working in all visibility conditions. It is also able to collect environmental data with high revisit frequency of areas and make them available to users in short time. The system will be essentially used for civil protection, environmental and climatic monitoring, prevention of catastrophes, control of coasts and hydrogeological resources in the Mediterranean area but it can also provide its data to other regions of the globe.

The COSMO SkyMed mission can rely on the equipment supplied by Galileo Avionica such as Photovoltaic Assembly, star trackers, power regulation and distribution unit for both platform and RADAR instrument as well as the RF signal amplification, conversion and modulation unit. Galileo Avionica is a European leader for these products.

In particular, the Photovoltaic Assembly is developed by Galileo Avionica with the contribution of CESI for the supply of high efficiency gallium arsenide solar cells and it guarantees an installed power of about 5 KW which enables the satellite to carry out all the expected surveys during the five years of operation.

The star trackers, used with success in different ESA and NASA space missions, are able to determine in an autonomous and very accurate way the satellite attitude data starting from the stars position.

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