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PRESS RELEASE

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Finmeccanica wins a new order worth EUR 140 million as part of NATO's Alliance Ground Surveillance programme

SELEX Galileo, a Finmeccanica company, has been awarded a contract worth €140 million by prime contractor Northrop Grumman Corporation (NYSE:NOC) as part of NATO's Alliance Ground Surveillance (AGS) programme.

The AGS programme is the flagship of NATO's new defence strategy for security allies. Thirteen NATO countries are participating in the programme via their domestic industries: Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Germany, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Norway, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and the United States. The capability developed and acquired by this group of nations will be made available to the whole alliance as a NATOowned capability, with NATO responsible for the system's operations and maintenance.

SELEX Galileo has been awarded approximately 12 percent of Northrop Grumman's overall NATO AGS contract. This will see the company leading the Italian element of the programme and also taking responsibility for Romanian and Bulgarian participation.

Interoperability, connectivity and continuous surveillance are the three key concepts of the AGS system capability, which will supply real-time information for airborne ground surveillance and situational awareness. This valuable intelligence will support the entire spectrum of NATO's operational missions and those of its member nations.

The solution chosen by NATO includes an airborne component based on the Global Hawk high-altitude, long-endurance (HALE) UAS platform produced by Northrop Grumman Corporation and ground-based elements comprised of fixed mission operational support as well as both transportable and mobile general ground stations. The ground-based parts of the system will deliver mission planning and control activities and data analysis and distribution. The system architecture also comprises training and logistical support elements.

SELEX Galileo will be responsible for the fixed mission operational support and transportable general ground station components of the AGS system's ground-based element. It will also contribute to the telecommunications suite, supplying the wide band data link produced by SELEX Elsag, another Finmeccanica company. This solution will provide a line-of-sight link between the AGS airborne platform and the ground-based components.

Finneccanica plays a leading role in the global aerospace, defence and security industry. It participates in some of the sector's biggest international programmes through its operating companies and thanks to partnerships in Europe and the USA. A leader in the design and manufacture of helicopters, defence and security electronics, civil and military aircraft, aerostructures, statellites, space infrastructure and defence systems, Finneccanica is Italy's leading high-tech company with significant manufacture assets and expertise in the transport and energy sectors. Listed on the Milan Stock Exchange, as of 31 December 2011, Finneccanica had around 70,474 employees, including 40,224 in Italy, some 10,450 in the US, over 9,300 in the UK, some 3,700 in France, around 3,250 in Poland, and 964 in Germany. Over 85% of the Group's employees are based in three "domestic" markets (Italy, the UK and the USA). As part of its drive to maintain and build on its technological excellence, Finneccanica securite 12% of its revenues on research and development.