



## **Thales Alenia Space wins Italy's prestigious National Award for Innovation 2017**

**Rome, December 18, 2017** – Thales Alenia Space, a joint venture between Thales (67%) and Leonardo (33%), has won Italy's National Award for Innovation 2017 ("Premio dei Premi 2017"), sponsored by the COTEC Foundation. The award, which recognizes Thales Alenia Space as one of the nine most innovative Italian enterprises in the Industry and Services sector, was presented at the Chamber of Deputies this morning, in a ceremony attended by President Laura Boldrini.

The prestigious National Award for Innovation recognizes people and companies that change the world. It reflects the spirit of the 2017 National Innovation Day, established in 2008 by the Council of Ministers (#InnovazioneItalia).

Thales Alenia Space had already won Confindustria's Enterprise for Innovation IXI Prize, being named the most innovative Italian company in the Large Industry category.

"Winning this prize today is a source of great pride," said Donato Amoroso, CEO of Thales Alenia Space Italy. "It also clearly shows how innovation is an integral part of a successful modern business strategy, especially for us since we operate in a cutting-edge market, where the application of particularly innovative technologies can make a difference."

The space sector today harbors a wealth of knowledge and is capable of generating tremendous innovation. Thales Alenia Space is a long-standing leader in this field, in terms of innovative products and processes alike. It is a resolutely future-centric enterprise, with a broad international presence and state-of-the-art technologies.

Thales Alenia Space's plant in L'Aquila employs robots, cobots (collaborative robots, designed to work closely with people) and other new production technologies to improve flexibility and reduce time-to-market. The multipurpose Cratos (Collaborative Robot Addressed To Operative Solutions), for instance, is already integrating electronic components into the first COSMO-SkyMed second-generation satellite, the first in a new Earth Observation constellation.

### **About Thales Alenia Space**

Drawing on more than 40 years of experience and an unrivaled combination of skills, expertise and cultures, Thales Alenia Space designs and delivers innovative solutions for space-based communications, navigation, Earth observation, environmental management, exploration, science and orbital infrastructures. Governments and private industry alike count on Thales Alenia Space to design, build and deliver satellite systems that cover the full spectrum of applications: locate and connect people and objects around the world; observe our planet, make optimum use of the Earth's resources and explore the Solar System... and more. Thales Alenia Space firmly believes that space expands people's horizons to build a better and more sustainable life on Earth. Thales Alenia Space is a joint company between Thales (67%) and Leonardo (33%), and along with Telespazio forms the Space Alliance, enabling it to provide a complete range of products and services. Thales Alenia Space recorded sales of about 2.4 billion euros in 2016 and has 7,980 employees in nine countries.

[www.thalesaleniaspace.com](http://www.thalesaleniaspace.com)

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