

e-GEOS (Telespazio/ASI) signs framework contract with the European Union to supply GeoEye-1 and IKONOS very high resolution satellite data

Rome, 16 marzo 2010 - e-GEOS, the company jointly owned by Telespazio and the Italian Space Agency, has signed a framework supply contract with the European Union, through the Joint Research Center (JRC) of the European Commission. Under the up to 4 year contract, which is worth approximately EUR 5.4 million per year, e-GEOS will provide the Union with world-wide Very High Resolution images from the GeoEye-1 and IKONOS satellites.

By signing this contract, e-GEOS becomes the largest provider of satellite data to the European Union and confirms its status as the European multi-mission hub for high resolution data.

GeoEye-1 and IKONOS are the most widely used satellite data within the Commission's Control with Remote Sensing (CwRS) programme, which for more than 10 years has made extensive use of VHR data for the verification of European farmers' declarations of agricultural land use and land cover for area-based subsidies. This data also provides support to EU programmes for the security of the citizen, for the protection of the environment, for humanitarian aid, for the assessment and monitoring of infrastructure and for the verification and monitoring of nuclear installations.

e-GEOS, also through its subsidiaries Eurimage and Euomap, has a long lasting cooperation with the Commission and has established with the JRC ad-hoc acquisition procedures to meet the strict operational requirements of the above programmes.

GeoEye-1 and IKONOS data will be provided through e-GEOS's Imaging and Processing Facility (IPF) located in the Neustrelitz station in Germany, operated by Euomap, in collaboration with the German Aerospace Center (DLR), and covering Europe and the Mediterranean Basin.