

CGS delivers the inertial sensors of LISA Pathfinder to ESA

November, 3rd 2014 – CGS SpA Compagnia Generale per lo Spazio is celebrating today the delivery to the European Space Agency (ESA) of the inertial sensors of the LISA Pathfinder mission.

LISA Pathfinder, an ESA mission, involves European space companies and research institutes from France, Germany, Italy, The Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland, the UK and the US space agency NASA. ESA created the LISA Pathfinder mission to develop and prove technologies that cannot be verified on the ground. LISA Pathfinder, planned to be launched in 2015, is a decisive step towards the realization of the first space observatory for gravitational waves which will reshape our understanding of the Universe.

CGS Managing Director, Roberto Aceti, said: “This is a significant achievement for CGS and for all scientists and engineers who work hard to challenge highly demanding scientific requirements. This performance puts our company in the forefront of research of fundamental physics experiments.”

The inertial sensors, which are the heart of the high-precision metrology required for the observatory, have been realized by CGS on funding from the Italian Space Agency (ASI). The sensors have been designed by scientists from the University of Trento and from the National Institute for Nuclear Physics (INFN).

CGS SpA - Compagnia Generale per lo Spazio is a leading company in Italy in the field of space systems design, development and integration. The company is part of OH B AG, a European space and technology group that currently employs over 2,000 people in two business units: “Space Systems” and “Aerospace and Industrial products”. Founded in 1981, CGS has its headquarters in Milan and some centres of excellence in Italy.