

THALES ALENIA SPACE – PLATINUM WIA-E MEMBER

Exploring the Universe to push the boundaries of our knowledge, but also to improve our daily lives and well-being thanks to the advanced technologies, pioneered in space exploration – with this mindset Thales Alenia Space welcomed ESA's Ministerial Council decision to assign a record budget for future space missions.

The most ambitious plan for the European space sector will be an excellent opportunity for Thales Alenia Space to deploy its expertise and capabilities to contribute to the new challenges and breakthrough discoveries about Earth, our Solar System and the Universe.

The company is particularly enthusiastic about Europe's decision to continue the journey to Mars and participate in the Mars Sample Return mission, designed to collect samples from the surface of Mars and bring them back to Earth - a major new step forward in our exploration of the Solar System.

Pushing the frontiers of human space travel has been at the very heart of Company's commitment to the International Space Station, and its fundamental role in the ISS infrastructure that allows people to stay permanently and safely in space.

Thales Alenia Space will be engaged in the future Moon exploration missions by providing vital modules for transportation and for the first space station to orbit the Moon. Furthermore, the Space Rider, the next-generation reusable automated transportation system will provide Europe with the unique capacity for routine access and return from low Earth orbit.

ESA's world-leading position in Earth observation will be strengthened with the advent of several new missions, in particular addressing topics concerning climate change. The European Union's Copernicus program, which plays a key role in monitoring our environment, will expand its scope with new flagship missions. In the science field, Thales Alenia Space welcomes the renewed ambition of ESA and its Member States aiming at increasing knowledge and giving mankind inspiration, with exciting missions, such as ARIEL, Athena and LISA.

Finally, this exciting year was crowned with the launch of COSMO-SkyMed Second Generation (CSG-1) on 18th December from Europe Space Port in French Guiana. CSG-1 will be an outstanding tool for observing our planet with its innovative operational capabilities, and its contribution to the continuous monitoring of the Earth's surface, to safety-related needs and to the management of natural events.