



Planetek Hellas signs contract with Airbus for new ESA mission, TRUTHS

Athens, February 3rd 2021



The now commencing activity for the design and development of European Space Agency's (ESA) new satellite, TRUTHS, finds Planetek Hellas on board as the company has signed a contract with Airbus Defence & Space UK, ESA's Prime Contractor for the phase A/B1 of the project.

The TRUTHS mission (**T**raceable **R**adiometry **U**nderpinning **T**errestrial- and **H**elio-**S**tudies) aims to establish a traceable space-based climate and calibration observing system to improve confidence in climate-change forecasts – a kind of 'standards laboratory in space'. TRUTHS will carry a hyperspectral imager to provide benchmark measurements of both incoming solar radiation and outgoing reflected radiation with an unprecedented accuracy, as well as a one-of-a-kind Cryogenic Solar Absolute Radiometer and a unique On-Board Calibration System.

Presently, Planetek Hellas is contracted to assist Airbus in defining the high-level functional requirements of the software linking space & ground segments, and the interfaces towards the ground segment, through phase A. During phase B1, Planetek Hellas will support Airbus in creating the prototype software architecture for the End-to-End Mission Performance & System Simulator (E2EMS) and the Observation Performance Simulator (OPSI) .

«According to the present time schedule of ESA the launch of TRUTHS will happen six to eight years from now. Till then we will be helping to simulate the flying and operation in orbit of the satellite many times, to make sure everything will work nominally when it will be in orbit, at 600km from Earth. This is in simple words the part of the project assigned to Planetek Hellas» says Maria Ieronymaki, Technical Manager at Planetek Hellas.

The TRUTHS satellite is an initiative within ESA's Earth Watch program and is supported at present by five Member States, with the United Kingdom (85.5%) being the main contributor. Greece (6.2%), Switzerland (5.6%), the Czech Republic (1.5%) and Romania (1.2%) have made smaller yet significant contributions to the Mission.

«We are certainly very pleased that after an international competitive process, Airbus has trusted a Greek SME such as Planetek Hellas, for a significant part of the TRUTHS mission. Our know-how on the design and development of software for space systems (Ground & Space Segment) certainly played a decisive role in the selection, however, it must be said that the decision of the National Delegation of Greece to support the TRUTHS mission in ESA's last council at ministerial level in 2019 (Space19+), was also very important, essentially paving the way for Greek companies and universities that are generally active in the field of space», said Stelios Bollanos, co-founder and director of Planetek Hellas.

For further info please contact:

Elia Mavrodonti
Tel: +30 215 215 7390
news@planetek.gr

simplifying the complexity of space

Planetek Hellas EPE ■ 44 Kifisias Avenue ■ 15125 Marousi, Athens ■ Greece
T +30 2152157390 ■ F +30 2152157398 ■ info@planetek.gr ■ www.planetek.gr

A few words:

For European Space Agency (ESA)



ESA is an international organization with 22 Member States. By coordinating the financial and intellectual resources of its members, it can undertake programs and activities far beyond the scope of any single European country. ESA is also responsible for implementing European Union's space policy. The activity of ESA concerns the further exploration of the planet Earth, the Atmosphere, our solar system, but also the universe in general. ESA is also responsible for the development

of satellite technology and applications as well as for the promotion of European industry. The view expressed herein can in no way be taken to reflect the official opinion of the European Space Agency. www.esa.int

For Planetek Hellas



Planetek Hellas is a Greek company, active in the field of Satellite Earth Observation, Space Data Infrastructure, and Space & Ground Segment Software Development, since its establishment 15 years ago. Company customers currently include some of the most important bodies at the European level, such as the European Space Agency, the European Commission, the European Union Satellite Center, the European Environment Agency, etc. The company is a founding member of the

Hellenic Space Industries Cluster and a full member of the "Hellenic Space Technology and Applications Industry" Association. www.planetek.gr

