



**EUROPEAN UNION**



**African, Caribbean and  
Pacific Group of States  
(ACP Group)**

## **PRESS RELEASE**

1<sup>st</sup> of October 2014

### **The EGNOS<sup>1</sup> -Africa Joint Programme Office (JPO) is now fully operational**

The **SAFIR<sup>2</sup>** (Satellite navigation services for **AF**rican **R**egion) project which is part of the Africa-EU long term strategic partnership to enhance safety in air transport and whose global objective is to build capacity within African ACP countries for the future deployment of GNSS/EGNOS in the region is pleased to announce the completion of the recruitment of the EGNOS-Africa Joint Programme Office (**JPO**) staff.

Ten Experts (1 Director – 1 Deputy Director – 1 GNSS Programme Manager – 1 Certification and Safety Expert – 1 Legal and Economic Expert – 2 GNSS Experts – 1 Aviation Application Expert – 1 Sister Application Expert – 1 Operation Expert) are now on duty in Dakar.

Before joining the **JPO**, all the JPO staffs were trained in Trieste (Italy) under the sister Project TREGA (**TR**aining for **EG**nos in **AF**rica) led by UNESCO/ICTP (International Centre for Theoretical Physics).

The **JPO** is housed in an independent building in the Almadies area of Dakar, together with the ICAO Flight Procedures Programme for Africa-Indian Ocean region. The premises are made available by ASECNA as part of its kind contribution to both Projects.

The missions of the EGNOS-Africa Joint Programme Office (**JPO**) are: to define the baseline and to oversee the subsequent implementation phases for the specification and procurement of the development and deployment of GNSS/EGNOS in Africa.

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<sup>1</sup> European Geostationary Navigation Overlay Service

<sup>2</sup> The SAFIR project is funded by the European Union and awarded by the ACP Group of States to an International Consortium led by ASECNA (Agence pour la Sécurité de la Navigation Aérienne en Afrique et à Madagascar) with Egis, Pildo Labs and ESSP

The **SAFIR** Project and the **JPO** are supporting a number of technical Working Sessions, composed of regional stakeholders concerned with GNSS/EGNOS in sub-Saharan Africa, which address all aspects of EGNOS-Africa system implementation in preparation of the infrastructure deployment phase, including governance, certification policy, liability policy, legal aspects, services provision, applications, as well as system performance and maintenance.

The outputs of these Working Sessions are feeding into the **GNSS/EGNOS Services Implementation Roadmap** for sub-Saharan Africa, currently under development by the **SAFIR** Project Implementation Team and the **JPO** staffs.

The EGNOS-Africa Joint Programme Office (**JPO**) is a pan-African entity that acts for the benefit of Africa and supports Stakeholders in their GNSS/EGNOS strategy, developments and implementation.

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**SAFIR**

[www.aviation-africa.eu/safir](http://www.aviation-africa.eu/safir)

#### **Note to Editors:**

##### **SAFIR**

The SAFIR project is funded by the European Union and has started on 15 January 2013. It covers the set-up, staffing and operations of an EGNOS-Africa Joint Programme Office (JPO) with a proper regional participation of the various beneficiary countries. SAFIR also sets up and supports a number of technical Working Sessions composed of regional stakeholders concerned with GNSS/EGNOS in sub-Saharan Africa.

##### **ASECNA:**

ASECNA is a public organisation endowed with an international status, having 18 Member States\* and vested with the responsibility of cooperative management of an airspace of 16,1 million km<sup>2</sup> (1,5 time the area covered by Europe). With air navigation safety as its main mission, ASECNA is a recognised model for autonomous, cooperative and transnational management of airspace, widely promoted by the international community.

\* Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroun, Central African Republic, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, France, Gabon, Guinea Bissau, Equatorial Guinea, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Chad, Togo

**Egis:**

Egis is a consulting and engineering group working in the fields of transport, urban development, construction, industry, water, environment and energy. In the road and airport fields, the group is also involved in project financing, turnkey-contract projects and facility operation.

In the air transportation sector Egis offers cutting-edge products and services to the air traffic management, airport and air operations industries. The company's expertise ranges from consulting and engineering services to the provision of turnkey solutions. Egis has been developing a specific expertise in aviation-related GNSS applications and connected services with recent activities in standardization, GNSS systems performance analysis, definition of concept of operations, support to operational implementation, etc.

**Pildo Labs:**

Founded in 2001, Pildo Labs is an engineering company specialized in delivering top of the edge technology within the aeronautics and space sectors. PildoLabs is recognized as one of the main players for the development of advanced Air Navigation products and services enhanced by Satellite Navigation or GNSS (basic GPS or EGNOS, GBAS augmentations). Such leadership is the result from company involvement since the very beginning in most research and strategic programmes for the implementation of new enhanced novel operations through satellite technology. Pildo Labs played a key role within the approval process for EGNOS Safety of Life service, and is continuously supporting aviation community throughout its operational implementation.

**ESSP:**

ESSP has been founded in 2009 by the air navigation services providers from France (DGAC/DSNA), Germany (DFS), Italy (ENAV), Portugal (NAV-P), Spain (Aena), Switzerland (Skyguide) and UK (NATS) to act as service Provider for EGNOS, the European Geostationary Navigation Overlay Service.

The European Commission (EC) owns the EGNOS system and manages the EGNOS programme. ESA is the EGNOS design agent under a delegation agreement with the EC.