



MUNICH SATELLITE NAVIGATION SUMMIT 2008

Session 10:

Chairman: Prof. Guenter W. Hein



Jacques Barrot

Jacques Barrot, Vice President of the European Commission in Brussels, thanked Prof. Hein for his opportunity to participate in the Munich Satellite Navigation Summit. Mr. Barrot continuously emphasized during his speech the importance of European industries in their contribution to the European Space Industry. As he stated, since Galileo was born in 1999, the whole project has had to fight through different hard moments. Mr. Barrot shortly summarized the difficulties of the past months in reaching agreement on the financing of Galileo. As he said, Galileo needed a realistic assessment of the situation to come to an enduring decision. With the abandonment of the PPP concept, Galileo will be now exclusively financed on its own money, being thus the European Commission now the manager of the project. This implies that the European Space Agency (ESA) will work for the EC, ensuring the integration of EGNOS and Galileo in order to become operational 2013. Mr. Barrot also referred to the 2007 agreement on a common open signal for GPS and Galileo, namely MBOC. After emphasizing the importance of the launch of GIOVE B, he assured that the goal to have Galileo operational in 2013 is a feasible goal. As Mr. Barrot underlined, Galileo will collect the success that it deserves. However, it is important that the new legal framework is completed rapidly. The EC is closely working with the Council and Parliament and is confident that the decision on the new mechanisms will be completed soon. Mr. Barrot continued stating

that since 2001 the Commission has founded many applications and will continue to do so under FP 7. From his point of view, the potential of satellite navigation has been widely recognized in the society today. He continued recalling the success of Germany in recognizing and illustrating the capability in setting up the toll system based on Galileo as an example on how GNSS can serve the society already today. Indeed, satellite navigation can provide strong tools in support of such objectives. As Mr. Barrot mentioned, the integration of satellite navigation into phone devices as well as the road transport together with mobile communication are the biggest markets. Mr. Barrot concluded wishing new success to the program, sentencing that in one year, when the Summit is called up again, we will be in the situation to affirm that the "Galileo dream will have come true".

The interesting speech of Mr. Barrot was followed by different questions from the participants of the panel to the distinguished speaker. Mr. Shaw, from USA, asked Mr. Barrot on the participation of non-European countries in the future while Mr. Persev, Russia, concentrated on the economical effect from the investment in the Galileo development. As Mr. Barrot stated, Europe will continue to invest to preserve the independence and technology of the European industry, emphasizing also the desire of cooperating with other countries, especially those natural partners as Russia is. The last question came from Mr. Sleg, from the Czech Republic, who reiterated that all stakeholders of all member states should have access to the technological know-how. Equally, it would be of extreme value to identify how this could be used to support the new member states. Another point of discussion was related to the security agreement between EU and ESA.

After the turn of questions, Mr. Barrot concluded stating that Galileo is a great moment for companies in Europe to demonstrate their special competence as reflected in the new Treaty in Lisbon. He additionally invited all assistants to look up in the sky on April 26th where the GIOVE-B will be launched and finalized describing Galileo as an adventure, that is based on global cooperation. This model should also be further used in the future.



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Hein, Persev, Viriglio, Shaw, Slegre (left to right)

Giuseppe Viriglio, from the European Space Agency, has given today a brief overview on the status of EGNOS and Galileo. As Mr. Viriglio mentioned, both projects are progressing well and the performances are well in line with the expectations. Different figures on the signal stability in the last year have also been provided putting in evidence the performance improvement obtained by EGNOS during 2007. The latest figures on accuracy are in the range of 1 to 1.5 metres. Other interesting numbers on EGNOS coverage (APV-1 availability) were equally discussed. Mr. Viriglio continued commenting on the preparation of the operational phase, explaining the role of ESA as design authority during the operational phase. This has been clarified and agreed with the Commission in the recent months. After this, the schedule of exploitation as well as the short term evolution were briefly presented, paying particular attention to the extension of the present EGNOS contract and the integration with other system such as WASS, M-SAT, SDCM. Mr. Viriglio confirmed that the GIOVE-B satellite will be ready to be launched on April 26th this year, carrying aboard the new MBOC signal. As Mr. Viriglio confessed, GIOVE B has suffered from different delays due to the non-availability of the launcher. He proceeded commenting on the new procurement structure consisting of six segments and providing the technical status in the space segment, ground mission segment, ground control and test user segment.

Mr Viriglio closed his speech presenting the future set-up of the Galileo project, where the EC will be the customer and will retain the final management responsibility of the overall programme. According to this, ESA will act as

procurement agent. All the competition in the different segments will be subject to any possible competitor. The first FOC satellites is expected to be launched beginning 2011. To accomplish this, the corresponding ITT's must be issued on 1st July 2008, for which ESA and EC are currently working together.