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The benefits of EGNOS extension to Ukraine

EGNOS, the European Geostationary Navigation Overlay Service, is the European Satellite Based Augmentation System designed to enhance the **reliability** and **accuracy** of GPS positioning information over Europe.

This technology augments the performance of GNSS by broadcasting corrections for disturbance factors which affect the satellite signal.

Since the 1st of December, 2013, the EU-Ukraine Cooperation Agreement in the field of Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) has been in force. It is aimed at provision of satellite services with enhanced performance by means of extension of EGNOS services in the territory of Ukraine.

The current EGNOS service area permits only partial service over some Eastern European countries, including Ukraine, where EGNOS services are available in Lviv, Zakarpattya and parts of the Volyn region.

For Ukraine, EGNOS represents a key opportunity for improving safety and efficiency of aviation, agriculture, ground transportation and other applications in a country where international trade is of crucial importance. The extension of EGNOS system operation throughout the entire territory of Ukraine will promote the development of new applications in vital economy sectors.

Moreover, certain areas of eastern Europe are currently only partially covered by EGNOS.. The results of the EEGS project, funded by the European Commission within the 7th Framework Program, showed that the installation of a single additional EGNOS monitoring station (RIMS) in the eastern part of Ukraine would solve these issues for all above-mentioned countries.

Increasing capacity in aviation
Enabling more landings under severe atmospheric conditions and in less well-equipped airports will increase capacity, benefiting both airport and airline operators. Advanced approach procedures and more efficient routes will save fuel and decrease noise in populated areas near the airfields. Over time, it will also be possible to phaseout part of the costly ground-based navaids infrastructure and to free up valuable radio spectrum that can be exploited for both new and existing services.

Improving agricultural efficiency
The use of satellite navigation systems is a key element of “Precision Agriculture” technology. Precision agriculture is a highly effective farming strategy that increases yield and productivity, while reducing costs and minimizing environmental impact. EGNOS-based devices enable farmers to implement solutions that offer high return with minimal investment:

- Tractor guidance with improved accuracy;
- Automated variable ploughing, seeding and spraying;
- Virtual fencing and livestock positioning;
- Easy and accurate field measurement and boundary mapping.

Making ground transportation more intelligent

The use of satellite navigation and EGNOS will increase the efficiency of ground transportation by enabling technologies such as transport intelligent systems and by supporting intermodality. Intelligent transport systems are advanced applications combining different information and communication technologies in the areas of road transport, including infrastructure, vehicles and drivers, as well as in traffic management and logistics. Their introduction allows users to:

- Optimise and manage traffic;
- Provide continuous Intelligent Transport Systems services to vehicles;
- Improve safety through traffic management;
- Enable communication between vehicles and transport infrastructure;
- Provide traffic information in real time;
- Offer parking services including booking in the most secure manner;
- Facilitate the generation of innovative solutions for multimodal logistics and dangerous goods.

The UKRAINE project

The UKRAINE project was established in January 2015 to capitalize on opportunities for partnerships created by the finalization of the EU-Ukraine Cooperation Agreement in the field of Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS). This press-release has been prepared in the context of UKRAINE project fulfillment. This project received funding from the European GNSS Agency within the EU Research and Innovation program Horizon 2020 under the Grant Agreement No. 641517.

More information: www.project-ukraine.eu.