



AVIO ON THE FRONT LINE OF THE ESA HERA MISSION FOR PLANETARY DEFENCE FROM ASTEROIDS

Rome, 1 December 2020 - Avio S.p.A. announces it has secured its role as Subcontractor of OHB System AG within the frame of the European Space Agency (ESA) "Hera" project, a "planetary defence" system.

Hera mission foresees the launch of a dedicated satellite in 2024 and will be carried out in synergy with NASA's Double Asteroid Redirect Test (DART) mission. Hera and DART aim to the exploration and modification of the trajectory of a dual system of asteroids (Dydimos).

In this context, Avio is part of a consortium of European companies led by OHB System AG and is responsible for the satellite bi-propellant chemical propulsion system.

Avio has extensive and consolidated experience in satellite propulsion, with bi-propellant, mono-propellant and cold gas thrusters systems. In fact, many satellite programs have been equipped over the years with Avio's propulsion modules, such as Sicral, Artemis, XMM; Italsat 1-2, Sax, Tethered, Eurca, Olympus, Sicral 1B, SmallGEO, and EDRS-C.

"We are proud to participate in this important ESA mission, which recognizes the value of the competences and technologies of Avio to project it in the future of space defense" commented Giulio Ranzo, Avio CEO.

For further information

Media Contacts - Communications Department

giuseppe.coccon@avio.com;

francesco.delorenzo@avio.com

Investor Relations Contacts

Alessandro.agosti@avio.com

Fabrizio.spaziani@avio.com

Matteo.picconeri@avio.com

* * *

Avio S.p.A.

Avio is a leading international group engaged in the construction and development of space launchers and solid and liquid propulsion systems for space travel. The experience and know-how built up over more than 50 years puts Avio at the cutting-edge of the space launcher sector, solid, liquid and cryogenic propulsion and tactical propulsion. Avio operates in Italy, France and French Guyana with 5 facilities, employing approx. 1,000 highly-qualified personnel, of which approx. 30% involved in research and development. Avio is a prime contractor for the Vega programme and a sub-contractor for the Ariane programme, both financed by the European Space Agency ("ESA"), placing Italy among the limited number of countries capable of producing a complete spacecraft.