



## AVIO SIGNS THREE NEW LAUNCH CONTRACTS WITH ESA UNDER THE EUROPEAN "FLIGHT TICKET" INITIATIVE

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**Colleferro (Rome), 27 August 2025** – **Avio** announces the signing of three launch service contracts with the **European Space Agency (ESA)** as part of the "*Flight Ticket*" initiative, jointly promoted by ESA and the European Commission. The programme is designed to offer European companies and institutions the opportunity to test and validate new technologies in space.

This significant milestone reinforces Avio's strategic role in the European space industry and further strengthens its collaboration with ESA, the European Commission, and key stakeholders across the sector.

*"Being an active part of this initiative confirms the reliability of Vega-C and Avio's position as a key technological partner for the space sector", said **Giulio Ranzo**, CEO of Avio. "Deploying advanced technologies into orbit is essential to sustaining the sector's growth in an increasingly dynamic global landscape".*

The three missions scheduled to fly as Auxiliary Passengers aboard Vega-C from the European Spaceport in French Guiana include:

- **Persei (Spain)**– With the **E.T. Pack** mission, Persei will demonstrate a passive deorbiting technology using a conductive aluminium tape, enabling controlled satellite re-entry without the use of propellant.
- **DLR** – German Aerospace Center (Germany) – Will launch its **Pluto+ cubesat**, equipped with a compact avionics system and a high-efficiency flexible solar panel, aimed at testing technologies typically used on larger satellites.
- **Grasp (France)** – Currently developing a constellation of Earth observation satellites, Grasp will launch its second satellite under the signed contract. The satellite will be equipped with an infrared spectrometer for monitoring greenhouse gases and assessing air quality.

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**Avio** is a leading international group engaged in the construction and development of space launchers and solid, liquid and cryogenic propulsion systems. The experience and know-how built up over more than 50 years puts Avio at the cutting-edge of the space launcher sector and defense program. Avio is present in Italy, France, United States and French Guyana, employing approx. 1,400 highly qualified personnel. Avio is the prime contractor for the Vega program and a sub-contractor for the Ariane program, both financed by the European Space Agency (ESA) placing Italy among the limited number of countries capable of producing a complete spacecraft.

### **For further information**

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