



VEGA SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHES SENTINEL-2C INTO ORBIT

Colleferro (Rome), September 5th 2024 – Vega successfully launched the Sentinel-2C Earth Observation Satellite, a dedicated mission for the European Commission Copernicus Program. The payload was put into a Sun-Synchronous orbit at an altitude of approximately 775 kilometers.

The Copernicus Sentinel-2C satellite, with its wide swath, high-resolution, and multi-spectral imaging capabilities, will support a broad range of operational applications including agriculture, water quality monitoring, natural disaster management (e.g. wildfires, volcanoes, floods), and methane emissions detection.

The mission was the 22nd and last launch of Vega. The rocket had launched the first two satellites of the Sentinel-2 series: Sentinel-2A in 2015 on VV05 flight and Sentinel-2B in 2017 on VV09 flight.

“We are proud of the work done with this launcher by our team in support of the European Copernicus program”, said Giulio Ranzo, CEO of Avio. “This launch also represents an important milestone for Avio since it was Vega’s farewell flight. The launcher legacy will continue with its successor Vega C and in the future with Vega E. I want to thank all teams from Avio, ESA, ASI, CNES and Arianespace for their joint support since the beginning of the Vega program. The Vega launcher family represents today Europe’s capability to access space for light and medium payloads in Low Earth Orbit and will continue to be a strategic asset for private customers and institutions”.

For further information

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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 knowhow built up over more than 50 years puts Avio at the cutting edge of the space launcher sector and defence program. Avio is present in Italy, France, United States and France Guyana with 5 facilities, employing approx. 1,300 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.