



**PRESS RELEASE**

*Prague, 9 September 2015*

## **GSA launches R&D support for the advancement of European GNSS chipset and receiver technologies**

**To enable the adoption of Galileo and EGNOS-powered services across all market segments, the European GNSS Agency (GSA) has launched a new R&D funding mechanism supporting the development of chipsets and receivers. This ‘Fundamental Elements’ programme supports activities to be carried out from 2015-2020 for a projected budget of EUR 100 million.**

As part of an overall strategy of market uptake initiatives led by the GSA, the aim of the Fundamental Elements programme, according to EU Regulation, is to:

- Facilitate the development of applications across different sectors of the economy
- Promote the development of fundamental elements relating to the programmes, including Galileo-enabled chipsets and receivers

“For the first time EU Regulation provides a financing tool for the market uptake of European GNSS chipsets and receivers,” said GSA Executive Director, Carlo des Dorides. “The GSA will be instrumental in ensuring that the new Fundamental Elements programme contributes to the successful integration of Galileo and EGNOS.”

### **Fundamental Elements and Horizon 2020**

Fundamental Elements complements the EU’s Horizon 2020 research programme. While Horizon 2020 funding aims to foster Galileo and EGNOS adoption via content and application development, Fundamental Elements projects will focus on supporting the development of innovative chipset and receiver technologies. Projects focus on the integration of services provided by Galileo and EGNOS into devices and their commercialisation.

### **Financing**

Fundamental Elements will provide two types of financing: grants and procurement. Grants will be provided with financing currently foreseen for up to 70 % of the total value of the grant agreement. Intellectual property rights will stay with the beneficiary under the condition that the developed product is aimed at commercialisation.

In the case of grants, the GSA publishes two annual Grant Plans, one for EGNOS and another for Galileo. These Plans indicate the envisaged grants to be awarded per year. The Fundamental

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Elements grants are included in these Plans and can be consulted prior to the publication of the Call for Proposals. The annual Grant Plans include a brief description of the projects and the indicative budget and timings.

**The Grant Plans can be consulted here:** <http://www.gsa.europa.eu/gsa/grants>

Procurement will be used only in cases where keeping intellectual property rights allow for the better fulfilment of the programme's objectives. For example, by licensing it to different potential manufacturers rather than creating a monopolistic situation. For procurement, the projects will be financed 100%. Prior Information Notices, as well as the actual tenders, are available in the GSA website and EU Official Journal.

**Information on the call and submission details can be found here:**

<http://www.gsa.europa.eu/gsa/procurement-0>

Details on information events covering Fundamental Elements will be made available on GSA website: [www.gsa.europa.eu](http://www.gsa.europa.eu)

The GSA manages the Fundamental Elements programme on behalf of the European Commission.

### **About the European GNSS Agency (GSA)**

As an official European Union Regulatory Agency, the European GNSS Agency's (GSA) mission is to support European Union objectives and achieve the highest return on European GNSS investment, in terms of benefits to users and economic growth and competitiveness, by:

- Designing and enabling services that fully respond to user needs, while continuously improving the European GNSS services and Infrastructure;
- Managing the provision of quality services that ensure user satisfaction in the most cost-efficient manner;
- Engaging market stakeholders to develop innovative and effective applications, value-added services and user technology that promote the achievement of full European GNSS adoption;
- Ensuring that European GNSS services and operations are thoroughly secure, safe and accessible.

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