SPACE COMMUNICATIONS AND NAVIGATION SYMPOSIUM (B2) Space-Based Navigation Systems and Services (4)

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GNSS-RELATED PROJECTS UNDER HORIZON 2020 IN POLAND

Abstract

As the Galileo satellite constellation reaches its critical construction phase on orbit, more emphasis is given on application of this GNSS across Europe. These activities are related to more widespread adoption of Galileo and other GNSS in Europe and elsewhere around the World. A pan-European tool, which supports the introduction of GNSS to different branches of economy through RD, is the Horizon 2020 programme. The GNSS part of Horizon 2020 is coordinated by the European GNSS Agency (GSA). GNSS technologies are adopted to different branches of the industry, starting from hi-tech and emerging industries (such as Internet of Things), through mainstream sectors vital to global economy (ie. maritime), up to conservative areas (ie. agriculture). According to the GSA Market Report, the more widespread introduction of GNSS technologies should result in generation of dozens of thousands of new work places across Europe and a significant contribution to the economy.

Since January 2015, this agency has coordinated dozens of RD and coordination projects. Among them there are several realised with Polish partners. Poland's participation to space projects has seen a huge increase in the last decade. The summed up budget for space projects coming from various funding schemes has recently increased between 15 and 20 times. Huge catalysts were the country's membership to the European Union as well as the funding coming through joining the European Space Agency. Nevertheless the country's spending for Galileo in comparison to conducted GNSS projects is still perceived as low.

There is already one Horizon 2020 GNSS related project led by a Polish entity - project POSITION. It aims to support 10 best ideas utilising GNSS assets in order to form them into commercial entities. Seen, as a new development by the European Commission, the POSITION is led by Black Pearls, a Polish VC fund, interested in space technologies, which is also supporting other Polish space-related projects. This paper summarises the conducted GNSS-related projects with Polish participation.