



PRESS RELEASE

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SEA wins 5M Euro contract for fourth space electronics system on EarthCARE satellite

SEA, part of Cohort plc, has commenced work on a circa 5 million Euro contract to design and build the ATmospheric LIDar (ATLID) Command and Data Management (ACDM) unit as part of the ATLID instrument to be flown on the EarthCARE spacecraft in 2013.

The ATLID instrument measures the backscatter signals from an ultraviolet pulsed laser to determine atmospheric chemical constituents. The contract has been placed with SEA by the instrument prime contractor EADS Astrium SAS in Toulouse. The EarthCARE satellite is led by the spacecraft prime contractor EADS Astrium GmbH and is funded by the European Space Agency (ESA). EarthCARE (Earth Clouds, Aerosols and Radiation Explorer) is the third ESA Earth Explorer Core mission.

This work builds on SEA's existing roles on the EarthCARE spacecraft as the prime contractor for the BroadBand Radiometer (BBR) instrument and also the contractor for the Multi Spectral Imager (MSI) Instrument Control Unit (ICU). The ACDM is closely related to the ICUs for BBR and MSI which are provided by SEA.

SEA also has a smaller role on the remaining EarthCARE instrument, the Cloud Profiling Radar, which is being led by the Japanese Space Agency.

Ben Olivier, SEA's Aero-Space Business Director, said: "We are now involved in all four of the scientific instruments on the EarthCARE satellite which confirms that SEA is seen as a significant contributor to ESA's Earth Observation programmes. Our proven expertise in this technology helps to ensure we remain the UK's premier independent, space electronic systems company."

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