

CIS

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Airbus Defence and Space will provide free satellite communications and calls for German troops

The German Ministry of Defence has renewed a contract with Airbus Defence and Space to provide free satellite communications and calls for German troops for another four years, starting 1st July 2016. The existing contract framework has been augmented to meet the ministries directive for the provision of free, unlimited voice calling and internet access to all servicemen and women during operations, exercises and trainings outside Germany in order to keep in touch with their family and friends.

Whereas previous services were based on a mixture of ministry paid free calls and services individually paid by the soldiers, as of July 2016 soldiers will get full, unlimited access to voice calling and internet connectivity in all relevant locations abroad. The new service includes the provision of media servers, giving troops free access to movies, digital newspapers and the forces broadcast service.

“German soldiers can surf the internet, chat or make skype (video) calls over Wi-Fi using their own devices. The service is available in accommodation areas and welfare areas, and in special locations, like internet cafés, which are also provided by Airbus Defence and Space. We at Airbus Defence and Space are proud to be the partner of choice for this important service. The fact that these communications will be free of charge for the soldiers will make a huge difference to the welfare of troops serving in conflict zones around the world”, said Evert Dudok, Executive Vice-President of Communications, Intelligence & Security at Airbus Defence and Space.

Airbus Defence and Space has provisioned welfare communications to the German forces since July 2011. A specific service for navy forces started in July 2015. Airbus Defence and Space provides mobile systems to get unlimited access to voice calling on the sea and internet access during harbor visits.

About Airbus Defence and Space

Airbus Defence and Space is a division of Airbus Group formed by combining the business activities of Cassidian, Astrium and Airbus Military. The new division is Europe’s number one defence and space enterprise, the second largest space business worldwide and among the top ten global defence enterprises. It employs more than 38,000 employees generating revenues of approximately €13 billion per year.

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