

## Airbus awarded Eutelsat contract to build OneWeb low orbit constellation extension

**Toulouse, 17 December 2024** – Airbus Defence and Space has been awarded a contract by Eutelsat to build the extension of its OneWeb Low Earth Orbit (LEO) constellation.

Under the contract signed between the two companies, Airbus will build the first batches of the extension, totalling 100 satellites, with delivery targeted from the end of 2026, ensuring continuity and enhancement of service for current and future customers.

Alain Fauré, Head of Space Systems at Airbus Defence and Space said: “Airbus manufactured all of the current OneWeb satellite fleet. We are committed to the successful continuation of the OneWeb constellation and to keep serving the business of Eutelsat as we have done over the past decades.”

Eva Berneke, Chief Executive Officer of Eutelsat Group commented: “We are relying on our long-standing partner, Airbus, to begin building the first batches of the Next Generation of our OneWeb LEO constellation, which will ensure we deliver continuity of service of the existing constellation with enhanced service features, as we move towards an architecture in line with the European IRIS<sup>2</sup> constellation in 2030. Our in-market experience shows us that the appetite for low Earth orbit capacity is growing rapidly, and we are excited to embark on the next stage of our journey to satisfy that demand.”

The new satellites will enable key technology upgrades, notably 5G on-ground integration and ensure technology architecture compatibility with Europe’s planned IRIS<sup>2</sup> multi-orbit constellation, due to enter operational service in 2030, of which Eutelsat will be one of the main operators.

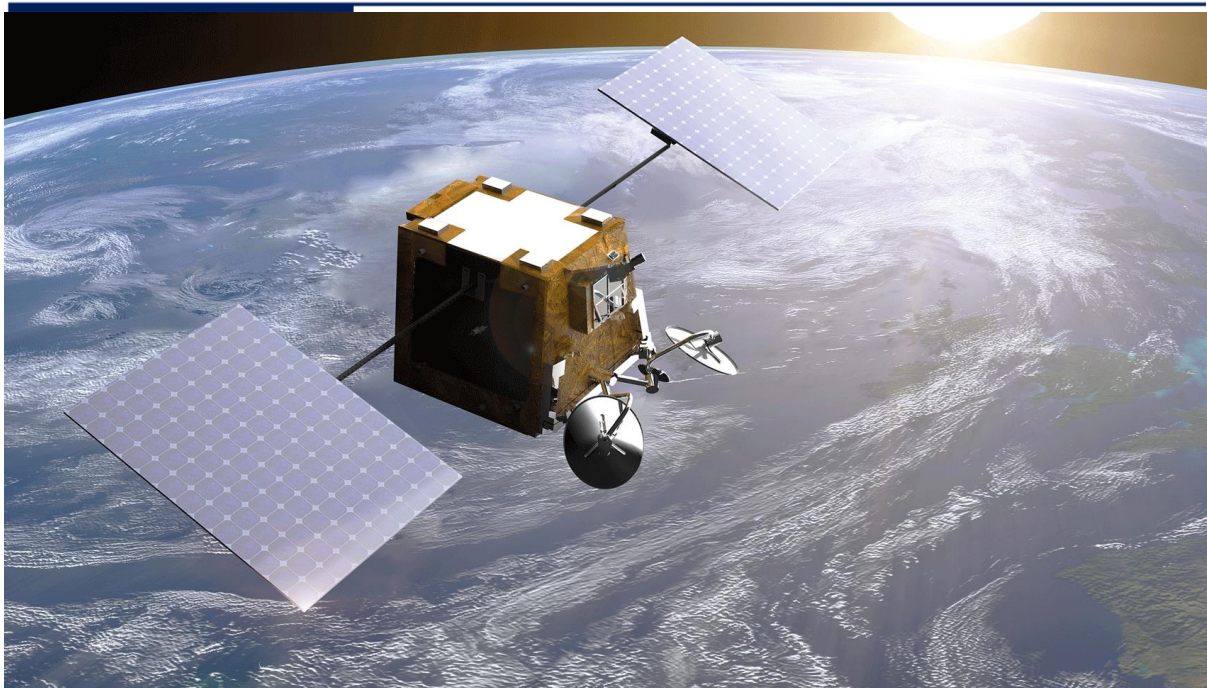
All 100 new satellites will be built at the Airbus site in Toulouse. Production is expected to start in 2026.

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