

## **AEL presents the model for the first Brazilian microsatellite for military applications**

*Exhibit marks the inauguration of the company's Center for Development and Industrialization of Aerospace Equipment, which will provide Brazil the capacity to produce unprecedented avionics and defense systems in the country*

**Porto Alegre, Oct/4/13** – Today, AEL Sistemas, Brazilian subsidiary for Elbit Systems of Israel, exhibited the model for the first Brazilian microsatellite for military applications – the MMM-1 - whose launch is projected for December 2015.

Weighing less than 10kg, and only 30 cm high, the microsatellite can be used in communication and monitoring (remote sensing), among other missions. Since Brazil does not produce satellites, today it depends on other countries to supply the national demand for this technology.

Because it is smaller and lighter, the equipment is also cheaper, enabling Brazil to incorporate this technology on a bigger scale. Initial investment in the project is R\$ 43 million and part of the resources will come from Finep – Brazilian Innovation Agency.

The governor of Rio Grande do Sul, Tarso Genro, underscored that the production of microsatellites in the country strengthens Brazil and Rio Grande do Sul. "We want the state to be a space and technological modernization center for the defense segment. This type of project strengthens national sovereignty," said Genro, during the inauguration. "This partnership will help us position Rio Grande do Sul at the technological vanguard of Brazil and the world," he added.

The CEO of Elbit, Bezhalel Machlis, says that, for the company, "Brazil is one of the most important and strategic markets" in the world. "Over the past 12 years, Elbit has invested tens of millions of dollars in the development and expansion of AEL's technological capacity and in the qualification of the technical team," he says. "After the inauguration of the Center for Development and Industrialization of Aerospace Equipment, AEL will be a center of world excellence," concludes Machlis.

### **Development and Industrialization**

Presentation of the microsatellite marked the inauguration of the Center for Development and Industrialization of Aerospace Equipment in Porto Alegre. At this AEL unit - a space measuring 7.5 thousand square meters, three times more than the company's current structure in Rio Grande do Sul – the

company will operate its high-tech equipment factory and labs for product and system development.

The initiative brings to life the company's main objective: develop the country's space and defense industry. This new center will further strengthen the state's technological development, especially the Rio Grande do Sul Space Center project, fruit of the partnership with the government of Rio Grande do Sul, universities, institutes and local companies.

"The center will contribute towards strengthening the Brazilian defense industry," says Vitor Neves, vice-president of AEL Sistemas. "We will have the capacity to product avionics and development unprecedented defense systems in Brazil, such as the electronic war systems, unmanned aerial vehicles, electro-optical technology and weapons guidance systems and space systems," underscores Neves. The development of space systems is being driven by the Rio Grande Space Center – the microsatellite will be the first major project.

The Show will also exhibit equipment such as Space subsystems, MEMS Propulsion Technology, UAVs (unmanned aerial vehicles) and the Guarani, an armored vehicle, among others.

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