



# EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs

Space Policy, Copernicus and Defence

Director

Brussels,

Dir. I

## Flash Report

### Directorate I



<i>Meeting/Date</i>	<i>13 October 2015</i>
<i>Subject</i>	<i>Meeting with ATOS</i>
<i>Participants</i>	(I3), (Atos),
<i>Unit in charge</i>	<i>I3</i>

Report: Atos presented the company and their acquisition of Siemens IT branch, BULL and XEROX IT reinforcing their activity in the software, hardware and user base. Atos has the capacity to be a European wide player with a range of ICT services for big European players like Thales, Safran, Airbus. Atos has a strong electronic payment activity.

Atos became an ICT platform service provider in EO through its investment in different projects: HelixNebula, PEPS, SPARKINDATA and the not yet (signed) H2020 project EO4wildlife financed by DG GROW.

Helix Nebula is a cloud provider consortium with a market place for providing cloud services to the client. Atos will meet ESA at the end of the month to better understand if ESA is interested to further use the solution provided. The Helix Nebula consortium would like to have a clear signal before engaging more investment.

Sparkindata seems to be a very interesting project mixing cloud computing technology, big data EO data both in situ and remote sensing. This is a consortium with 11 partners.

The business models of the different stakeholders in access platforms were discussed with the discussion concentrating more specifically on the ICT services needed.



Atos claimed that they were capable to provide a tailor made solutions using their recent acquisition like Siemens and Bull to provide a whole portfolio of services. They fully understand that the EO market need to be promoted with a key role for the ICT platform provider to help EO SMEs to concentrate on their value adding activity rather than in ICT issues.

It was requested by agencies that Atos works on platform architecture with distributed data centres reflecting the actual distribution of the data centres throughout Europe. The Commission would prefer a neutral assessment of the efficiency of the different access platforms, leaving the choice of the central or distributed nature of the architecture at a later stage since digital solution can ensure that the final services to the users is provided next to users and preferably in their own language while the heavy duty of storage and processing of the different datasets could be done elsewhere. A European platform will need to compete with strong US platforms with no other imperative than efficiency and cost, there is therefore no reason to put European platform at a disadvantage by design.

The Commission asked Atos to provide information on their platforms and Atos proposed to invite the Commission to a SparkInData demonstrator.