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## Argotec carries on, with ANDROMEDA to the Moon and back to the Covid-19

- Argotec presents ANDROMEDA, a nanosatellite constellation for telecommunication in the lunar environment able to reconvert itself to face the Covid-19
- In 2019 the Company reported an impressive growth: +73% on net sales and +83% on EBIT
- Investment on human resources, a non-stop strategical activity for Argotec: the employment rate increases of +58% and a new internal laboratory for prototype activities has been inaugurated

Turin, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020 – This period has been marked by a national and international health emergency without precedent. Argotec, an aerospace engineering company based in Turin, has faced this situation seriously and resolutely. This approach has been confirmed not only by the many practices deployed by the company **to protect the team's health and the continue of internal activities** but also by **numbers**: a steady growth of our business lead to a **+73% revenue increase** versus FY 2018. **The EBITDA margin, resulting in 24% of net sales, increased by 57%; EBIT – thanks to the increased sales volume and the improvement of the operating efficiency - reported a growth of 83%.**

Argotec has increased investment in human resources **(+58% versus 2018)** and on its infrastructure. Just recently the company **inaugurated a new internal laboratory** entirely dedicated **to prototyping activities**. This represents a **constant growing trend** which will certainly not stop in 2020 where another **30% turnover increase** is foreseen which will positively impact all other main KPIs of the company.

This **growth** represents the key to the **positive vision** adopted by the Italian company which has operated, for a decade, in the competitive and international context of the Space field. In the past weeks, Argotec did not cease the research and the integration in its team of new strategic **professional roles**. This is an essential action in order to continue the important **new project** in which it has been working for two years: **ANDROMEDA**.

The program takes its name from the constellation of stars, but it is a real **innovative nanosatellite constellation for the lunar environment**. Thanks to its experience in this field – the company is **the first in Europe** to produce **nanosatellites for deep space** – Argotec decided to reconsider its products in a new much more innovative way. For a long time, the company has studied using its **Hawk** satellite platform to develop a lunar constellation able to provide communication support (voice, data, video, web, etc.) for scientific, technological, and commercial activities in the lunar environment. The **ANDROMEDA** constellation flanked by a satellite used as a repeater – data relay – will provide a real-time access to the data collected in lunar orbit. This service will allow us **to meet the needs of a wide range of final users**: space agencies or institutional bodies that will require support during technological or scientific lunar missions.

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Moreover, in order to give a technological and innovative contribution to battle the Covid-19 situation, the experience gained to develop the **ANDROMEDA** system will be able to repurpose in activities **supporting terrestrial operations useful to face this global emergency**. This technology and this innovation developed for the lunar environment will be used in Earth application **to improve communications on Earth** and **the quality of telehealth**, all medical activities capable of remote diagnosis.

*“We’re living a completely new and unprecedented situation, but we’re facing it seriously and conscientiously. We’re trying to modify an obstacle into an opportunity – says **David Avino, Argotec Managing Director** – **ANDROMEDA** represents our passion, our capability to carry on investing in people and ideas. We are a resolute Italian company that strongly believes in innovation. Innovation and space explorations are essential to carry on and to grow.”*

The attention of the world’s space agencies and commercial companies is heading strongly towards the Moon for scientific and technological objectives. So, **Argotec** sets itself as a **pioneer providing real services to all workers**, public or private, who will soon start working around our natural satellite or directly on the lunar surface. **ANDROMEDA** will be a valuable ally in support of future human space exploration.

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