



## **New UK-based space team launches to boost sector and economy**

*Serco, Inmarsat, CGI UK and Lockheed Martin UK form 'Athena' to develop additional UK space capabilities, win new business and boost the British economy*

**LONDON, 19 MAY 2020:** Four UK-based companies announce today that they will team up to combine their complementary skills and expertise to enhance further the country's space industry capabilities to deliver prosperity and security.

Athena is the UK's new national team in space, formed by Serco, Inmarsat, CGI UK and Lockheed Martin UK. The four companies are world leaders in providing technology and services across defence, space, communications and information technology to governments, businesses and other organisations.

Athena has been formed to seize development opportunities that new space technologies will offer, driving economic growth for the UK and diversification across the British space sector as Athena succeeds. The combined capabilities and technologies available to Athena will enhance further the country's ability to deliver the UK's '[Prosperity and Security in Space](#)' strategy, which aims to increase the value of space to wider industrial activities to £500 billion, generate an extra £5 billion in UK exports and attract £3 billion of additional inward investment.

**Kevin Craven Serco Chief Executive, UK & Europe, said:** *"I am delighted to introduce Athena as an exciting new team that will deliver enhanced space-based technologies and services from the UK. Athena will boost British capabilities, as well as the economy, via growth in this fast-moving, developing sector. The launch of Athena also ensures diversity and choice in the UK space sector for future sustainable development."*

Athena will work on a number of opportunities that leverage space-based technologies, their ground-based systems and end-to-end services as they arise, both in the UK and internationally in the export market.

The UK has significant potential for strong growth in the space sector, as it develops in importance worldwide to facilitate new technologies such as driverless transport, enhanced navigation, secure communications for defence and for industry via the Internet of Things (IoT) and, more broadly, as part of 5G and other hybrid networks.

While continuing to operate as separate companies, Athena will see Serco, Inmarsat, CGI UK and Lockheed Martin UK – already major employers in the UK – develop shared capabilities to meet future demand for space-enabled solutions for business and government customers. This will also aim to boost the UK economy, in partnership with the UK Government's growing focus on the space sector and its priorities around 'levelling up' economic benefits across the country. Unleashing untapped potential in the UK space sector through future export business will deliver further growth and job creation at the four companies' sites across the country as well as enhanced skills in the UK workforce.





**For more information on the Athena companies please click below.**

- [Serco](#) - trusted to deliver critical support services and operate sensitive facilities by military organisations around the world, with deep expertise in delivering lower-cost, higher quality defence and space services.
- [Inmarsat](#) – a pioneering technology company and the world leader in global, mobile satellite communications.
- [CGI UK](#) - a global IT and business consulting services firm delivering mission-critical solutions to space and defence organisations for more than 40 years.
- [Lockheed Martin UK](#) - a global security and aerospace company, principally engaged in the research, design, development, manufacture, integration and sustainment of advanced technology systems, products and services.

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serco

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The mobile satellite company

CGI

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