

## Successful Commissioning of the upgraded COSPAS-SARSAT Mission Control Center in Pakistan

SUPARCO has successfully completed Commissioning Test of Pakistan Mission Control Center at SUPARCO HQs Karachi under COSPAS-SARSAT International Program for support of Search and Rescue using satellite aided tracking technology.

COSPAS-SARSAT is an international satellite-based search and rescue system, established by Canada, France, the United States and the Soviet Union in 1979.

The Commissioning Test was carried out from 10 Nov 2009 at 0500 - 1300 UTC to 12 Nov 2009.

Successful completion of Commissioning test recognized Pakistan as a member of the International COSPAS-SARSAT Program.



COSPAS-SARSAT program accrues the following benefits to Pakistan for efficient search and rescue operations.

- An early indication of a possible air crash, a marine accident or beacon-equipped person in distress by receiving a radio distress signal.
- Detection and location of distress beacons thus avoiding grid searches by a search and/or rescue aircraft which are time-consuming and highly expensive.
- Safety of the personnel involved in search and rescue from unnecessary risks by accurate location of the distress signals.
- Prompt detection of distress signals within an hour or so, due to the network of low earth orbiting operational satellite.