



# PRESS RELEASE

## **SEA win significant contract in mission to explore the Planet Mercury**

SEA, part of the Cohort group, has been selected as the supplier for the Remote Interface Units (RIUs) for the BepiColombo spacecraft mission to explore the Planet Mercury.

BepiColombo is being developed by the European Space Agency and JAXA, the Japanese Agency. SEA will provide the units to EADS Astrium GmbH for the Mercury Transfer Module and the Mercury Polar Orbiter under a contract worth in the region of 5 million Euros over two years.

The RIUs are important equipments for both spacecraft as they acquire the critical sensor data and telemetry as well as driving the thrusters that control the spacecraft.

SEA proposed a design based on common modules, making use of the company's experience in high integrity, miniaturised and low power electronics to achieve the highly efficient design solution required for a spacecraft travelling nearly 500 million miles and operating in sunlight that is around 10 times more intense than in an Earth orbit.

SEA's Aero-Space Business Director, Ben Olivier, commented: "This significant win continues the sustained development of SEA's space business over the past 3 years and positions SEA as the UK's premier, independent, space electronic systems company. The BepiColombo RIU development is an excellent basis for further equipment developments as most spacecraft incorporate the functions of the BepiColombo RIU."