



Galileo, the European Global Satellite Navigation System, will be available to users in 2016 on a Spanish Smartphone.

Galileo is the European Union's global satellite navigation system and the European GNSS Agency (GSA) is responsible for its introduction in the market in all the application areas.

The Aquaris X5 Plus, built by the Spanish company BQ, is the first European smartphone on which Galileo will be operational.

Madrid, 14 July 2016 – The BQ Aquaris X5 Plus will be the first European smartphone to benefit from Galileo, the European Union's Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS), which is set to declare Initial Services by the end of 2016.

Galileo, enhanced navigation under European civilian control

The Galileo programme is Europe's state-of-the-art, independent global satellite navigation system that will provide highly accurate positioning services under civilian control. Galileo will be inter-operable with GPS and GLONASS, the two other global satellite navigation systems. After years of deployment and testing, Galileo will reach a key milestone at the end of 2016, when it declares Initial Services by the end of the year. Today 14 Galileo satellites are already in orbit today and four more will be launched later this year. Galileo will consist of 30 satellites and will be fully operational by 2020.

The key advantage of integrating Galileo is its capability of improving GPS and Glonass localization accuracy. The addition of Galileo satellites will offer users a more accurate and faster position fix. This is useful in urban environments where the combination of narrow streets and high buildings can reduce the positioning performance of the device.

Aquaris X5 Plus; the first smartphone to bring Galileo to users!

BQ's Aquaris X5 Plus will be the **first European Galileo compatible smartphone**. During the development and the Galileo integration process, BQ has worked closely with the European GNSS Agency and Qualcomm, with whom BQ announced in May the cooperation on the next generation of smartphones.

Aquaris X5 Plus, renowned for its light, metallic design, can be purchased from 14 July for 279,90€. It has a 3,200 mAh battery, Qualcomm® Snapdragon™ 652 Octa Core processor up to 1.8 GHz and an Adreno 510 graphic processor of up to 550 MHz. Including a 16 Mpx back



camera, Sony IMX298 sensor, f/2.0, Dual tone flash, phase detection focus and lots more, as well as a front camera with a Sony IMX219 sensor and 8 Mpx. Video recording in 4K, fingerprint scanner and NFC.

Rodrigo del Prado, Deputy Director General of BQ, explains that “it is a great privilege for BQ to be one of the first in the world to offer the Galileo system in our devices. That the European Union and the GSA have confided in Spanish technology to launch this historic service worldwide is an honour not only for our company, but for the whole country”.

“Location Based Services (LBS) are undoubtedly the largest GNSS market segment, both in terms of number of devices and revenue potential, and thus a strategic target for the GSA, and I am glad to see Galileo is starting to take off in the smartphone arena” says GSA Executive Director, Carlo des Dorides.

“The key to Galileo’s success in this market is to ensure its uptake by LBS device manufacturers; we are excited that a European smartphone manufacturer is pioneering the use of Galileo for enhanced LBS solutions.” added GSA Head of Market Development, Gian Gherardo Calini.

“Qualcomm is pleased to have worked with BQ and the GSA on the Aquaris X5 Plus and the key milestone that Galileo support within the device represents. Accurate, reliable, and rapid position location is an important part of the mobile experience. Users will not only benefit from more accurate and faster position location, but also a powerful range of features enabled by the Qualcomm Snapdragon 652 processor,” says Roberto Di Pietro, Vice President, Business Development, Qualcomm Technologies, Inc.

About BQ

BQ is one of the leaders in European technology. Their objective is to help people understand technology, inspire them to use it and develop it. To do this they are committed to education in technology, a DIY philosophy, and Open Source. BQ applies this philosophy to its products (smartphones, 3D printers, and robotics, amongst others) as well as its software solutions, working towards making technology a tool that improves the world and the life of their users.

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