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## CNES pays tribute to Antonio Fabrizi

**After the funeral of Antonio Fabrizi, ESA's Director of Launchers from 2003 until recent months, CNES pays fulsome tribute to the man and to everything he achieved for European space.**

Antonio Fabrizi, who has passed away at the age of 67, was appointed ESA's Director of Launchers in 2003. He played a pivotal role in the successful development of the Vega launcher, was closely involved in taking the Soyuz launcher to the Guiana Space Centre and was of course a prime mover behind the development and sustained reliability of Ariane 5.

On behalf of everyone at CNES, the agency's President Jean-Yves Le Gall's thoughts go to Antonio Fabrizi's family and friends and to his colleagues at ESA. He said: "CNES is very sad to learn Antonio Fabrizi's death. Throughout his career, he was a credit to Italian and European space, and we all owe him a great deal. Over all these years, our teams came to appreciate his outstanding professional and human qualities. I myself had known Antonio for more than 20 years and I know just how much we owe him. I would like to express my sincere condolences to his family, his friends and all his colleagues."

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