



Director's Report

January 17, 2006

The Satellite Industry Association (SIA) Director's Report is a weekly executive capsule covering current satellite industry news and events.

Your comments are appreciated. Please contact Cindy Spiers at (202) 349-3632.

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Recent News

Tony Trujillo, senior vice president corporate services and government relations for Intelsat Ltd., has stepped down as **Satellite Industry Association** (SIA) chairman, and Joslyn Read, assistant vice president for regulatory affairs at Hughes Network Systems, was welcomed as new chairperson for 2006. The board also elected Nancy Eskenazi, associate general counsel of SES-Americom, as vice chair and, Jennifer Manner, vice president, regulatory affairs for Mobile Satellite Ventures, as treasurer. David Cavossa was re-appointed executive director.

Mobile Satellite Ventures (MSV) and **Boeing** announced that they have entered into a contract for the construction and delivery of three next generation L-band satellites. These satellites, with primary antennas almost 75 feet across, about twice as large as any previous commercial satellite, will form the backbone of an advanced commercial telecommunications network being developed by MSV and its Canadian joint venture partner, MSV Canada. In addition to covering the Americas with hundreds of spot beams, the satellites will use MSV's patented ATC technology, which combines satellite and cellular technology, to deliver service to wireless devices that are virtually identical to modern cell phone handsets in terms of aesthetics, cost and functionality. The contract provides for the delivery of

MSV-1 and MSV-2, which will replace and expand upon the current MSAT satellite system operated by MSV and MSV Canada. Like the MSAT satellites, the MSV-1 and MSV-2 satellites will cover Canada, the United States, including Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and the Caribbean Basin, as well as Mexico. The third satellite, MSV-SA will introduce MSV's communications services into South America. The spacecraft will also be equipped with a qualified digital channelizer that maximizes spectrum allocation. The signing of this contract is ahead of the schedule for the regulatory construction milestone requirements for the satellites. The satellites are expected to be launched in 2009 and 2010.

Globalstar announced that it has signed a definitive agreement to acquire 100% of the stock of Globalstar Americas Telecommunications, Globalstar Americas Holdings, and Astral Technologies Investments. These three companies are currently privately held and are authorized by Globalstar to provide Globalstar service throughout Central America, including Belize, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, and Costa Rica. They also own and operate the Globalstar satellite gateway ground station located near Managua, Nicaragua. The gateway provides Globalstar satellite customers

with access to the local public telephone system throughout the region. *Story courtesy of Space Daily*

At the North American International Auto Show in Detroit, **XM Radio** announced that Toyota's Scion brand will include the satellite radio service as standard equipment on its 2006 Scion xB Release Series 3.0 which debuted at the show. **Sirius** and Rolls-Royce announced an agreement for the inclusion of the satellite radio service as standard equipment in all Rolls-Royce vehicles sold in the United States. *Story courtesy of SkyREPORT*

Northrop Grumman has been awarded a follow-on contract to provide technical support to the U.S. Air Force's Rocket Systems Launch Program (RSLP). The indefinite delivery/indefinite quantity contract has a potential value of approximately \$100 million over five years to Northrop Grumman Mission Systems. RSLP provides the U.S. Department of Defense with the target missiles and space-launch vehicles necessary to support a wide range of test programs associated with government laboratories, missile defense and other major Defense Department development programs. *Story courtesy of Space Daily Express*

Orbimage has finalized the acquisition of substantially all of **Space Imaging's** assets. The combined company will now do business under the brand name **GeoEye**. GeoEye operates a constellation of three remote-sensing satellites including OrbView-3, IKONOS, and OrbView-2. In addition to the satellites already in orbit, GeoEye plans to launch a satellite in early 2007 to service a contract with the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA). *Story courtesy of SpaceDaily*

iDirect Technologies, a division of Vision Technologies Systems, and **Globecomm Systems**, announced their first hub intended specifically to support GSM networks over satellite. The new VSAT hub will support multiple shared networks delivering GSM service throughout the EMEA region. iDirect designs, develops, and markets bi-directional satellite-based broadband IP solutions while Globecomm is a global provider of end-to-end value-added satellite-based communications solutions. By utilizing broadband IP satellite access with the Globecomm/iDirect solution, cellular network operators can backhaul GSM Abis traffic from anywhere. This includes even the most remote locations and the harshest environments. More importantly, it offers an economical option without sacrificing the speed or quality that the cellular industry demands. *Story courtesy of SpaceDaily*

Alcatel Alenia Space announced the delivery of Earth observation data acquisition systems to the China State Radio Monitoring Center (CSRMC), the national Chinese network of Earth observation stations. This equipment will be located in three satellite data reception stations operated by the CSRMC. The Alcatel 9910 OMNISAT is the core element of earth observation ground stations. It handles data transmission rates up to 500 Mbit/s in a wide range of modulation and decoding schemes. The multi-mission solution provided through the Alcatel 9910 OMNISAT allows the 'station operator' to reduce drastically the cost of ownership, applying a single reception chain for data acquisition of a wide range of satellites. *Story courtesy of Satnews Daily*

Space X has established a new launch time for the maiden launch of its Falcon 1 rocket on February 8, at 4:30 p.m. California time, with Feb. 9 as a backup day. Space X noted that given that Falcon 1 is an all new rocket and is launching from an all new launch pad on a remote tropical island, countdown scrubs in the first few attempts were very likely. Space X has had one abort due to a launch pad issue and one due to the rocket. *Story courtesy of Space Daily*

The **U.S. Army** has released a request for proposals for its \$5 billion Worldwide Satellite Systems program. Under the five-year program, WWSS will bring turnkey commercial satellite systems and associated support services for satellite terminals, including all hardware, software, services and data to operate the terminals. The program will acquire six commercial satellite terminals, and will use a minimum of four or a maximum of six prime contractors, including at least two small businesses that meet the full requirements of the program. *Story courtesy of Redorbit.com*

The Stardust sample return capsule returned safely to the **U.S. Air Force** Utah Test and Training Range on January 16th. The capsule appeared to be in excellent shape. The capsule is being prepared for shipment to the Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas. The capsule contains interstellar dust and samples of the comet Wild 2. The Stardust spacecraft passed within 150 miles of Wild 2's nucleus to collect particles streaming off the comet. Although comet Wild 2 now moves between the orbits of Jupiter and Mars, it formed in the Kuiper Belt on the outskirts of the solar system. Scientists think the Kuiper Belt is a remnant of the solar

system's original building blocks. The comet spent most of its lifetime in this cold outer region and therefore preserved most of its dust and gases. Scientists expect the samples to provide substantial new information about the formation of our solar system. *Story courtesy of SpaceDaily*

Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) is planning to enter the launch vehicle business, aiming for a 10 per cent market share over the next five years based on its cost effective and proven launch technology. ISRO announced that India's first fully commercial satellite launch in April or May will be carrying Agile, an Italian satellite, on top of a PSLV C-3. ISRO plans to become self-sufficient in this sector after the scheduled launch of its GSLV Mk III in 2008, which is capable of carrying heavier satellites of up to four tons. ISRO signed an agreement with the Russian space agency in December 2005 to launch two of its satellites for the global navigation system, Glonass. The space agency will also be launching an Indonesian micro-satellite this year. ISRO has successfully launched eight PSLVs and three GSLV in the last ten years. *Story courtesy of SpaceDaily*

The Export and Import Bank of China reported that it will provide \$200 million in preferential buyer's credit for Nigeria's first communications satellite project. Designed, constructed and launched by China's space sector, the satellite will also be put into orbit by a Chinese-made Long March 3 B carrier rocket from the Xichang Space Launch Center in China's southwest Sichuan Province, then delivered to NASRDA after being inserted into its correct orbit, in early 2007. This is the first satellite China has exported to a



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foreign country although China has already proved to be a reliable launch service provider, having launched 30

satellites on 24 commercial flights since 1990. *Story courtesy of SpaceDaily*

Upcoming SIA Meetings and Events

26 January 2006 SIA Trade Working Group meeting, 4 p.m.

2 February 2006 SIA Regulatory Working Group meeting, 2-4 p.m.

6 February 2006 SIA Satellite Leadership Dinner, Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington DC. [Invitation only]

6-9 February 2006 SATELLITE 2006, Washington, D.C. Convention Center
www.satellite2006.com

7 February 2006 WSBR Flagship Lunch and Silent Auction (simultaneous to Satellite 2006), Speaker: Lt. Gen. Michael A. Hamel, Commander, Space and Missile Systems Center, Air Force Command Los Angeles, Ca., Washington, D.C. Convention Center, Room 145 AB 11:45 a.m. – 1:45 a.m., La Rene Tondro (703) 522-7745 wsbr@erols.com

9-10 February 2006 9th Annual Commercial Space Transportation Conference, Renaissance Hotel, Washington, D.C. www.faa.gov/news/conferences/commercial_space/

3-6 April 2006 United States Space Foundation Symposium, “22nd National Space Symposium”, Colorado Springs, Colorado www.spacefoundation.org

11-15 June 2006 ISCe Conference, San Diego, CA www.isce.com

10-12 October 2006 United States Space Foundation Symposium, “Strategic Space 2006”, Omaha, Nebraska www.spacefoundation.org

30 November – 1 December 2006 California Space Authority, “Transforming Space” Conference, www.californiaspaceauthority.org