



Director's Report

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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

The Federal Communications Commission has begun its formal review of the proposed transfer control of satellite and earth station licenses and authorizations held by **New Skies Networks** to **SES Global**. The FCC said comments and petitions on the deal are due Feb. 21, responses are due March 3, and replies March 10.

Lockheed Martin has been awarded a \$2 billion contract to lead the development of an advanced Air Force network that will provide a new level of high-bandwidth, secure, global communications to transform the speed of command and provide a vital information link to deployed mobile forces. The 10-year contract for the TSAT Missions Operations System (TMOS) program will link the Transformational Satellite Communications Systems (TSAT) program to the Global Information Grid (GIG) and is expected to commence operations in 2014. TMOS will provide the network and operations management segments for TSAT, as well as enable the TSAT interfaces to the GIG. The TSAT network is essential to providing deployed forces with the dramatically increased networking requirements of modern military operations. Unlike other DoD networks, TSAT affords mobile forces a high-bandwidth connection to the GIG

from virtually anywhere in the world, while protecting its users from enemy detection, eavesdropping and jamming. Its high-capacity links will dramatically increase the military's capability to support its deployed forces with real-time intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance. *Story courtesy of SatNews Daily*

Intelsat announced that **GlobeCast WorldTV** has recommitted to a long-term, multi-transponder contract for Intelsat-Americas 5 (IA-5) satellite capacity to support the substantial growth of its international television distribution platform over North America. IA-5, located at 97W, hosts one of the largest neighborhoods of international video programming in the U.S. and has been home to GlobeCast WorldTV since 1998. GlobeCast WorldTV, a subsidiary of GlobeCast, is the leading aggregator and distributor of premium international television and radio channels in North America for delivery via direct-to-home (DTH), cable, IPTV, hotels, multiple dwelling units (MDUs) and commercial establishments.

Hughes Network Systems, LLC announced that it has signed a contract with broadband carrier Crowley Data Poland to supply the Hughes AB9400 point-to-multipoint broadband wireless system. **Crowley Data Poland** is a

telecommunication services provider of high-quality voice, data and Internet access services in Poland. Crowley Data Poland will provide customers with a broad range of high-quality telecommunication services and innovative solutions including: local, long distance and international voice service; VoIP; broadband Internet access; Virtual Private Networks; frame relay; data transmission links; leased lines; dedicated Internet access; and dial-up services. Installation in Warsaw commenced in January 2006. *Story courtesy of MarketWatch*

XTAR, LLC announced that it has been awarded a multi-year contract from **HISDESAT** Servicios Estratégicos, S.A. to provide the Royal Danish Navy (RDN) with X-band communications services throughout Europe, Africa and the Middle East. XTAR is a joint venture between **Loral Space & Communications** and HISDESAT.

Loral Skynet has contracted its sister company, **Space Systems Loral**, for a replacement satellite for its aging Telstar 11 satellite covering Europe and North America. The replacement satellite will be called Telstar 11N (the "N" stands for "new"). The original Telstar 11 was launched in 1995 and provides Ku-Band coverage across most of North America (except the West Coast) and Europe. The new replacement satellite will be covering Europe and Africa. Loral Skynet's emerged from bankruptcy proceedings in November last year. *Story courtesy of SatNews Daily*

The transition of the **Inmarsat** A service in the Atlantic Ocean Region West (AOR-W) to a separate satellite has been completed. The Inmarsat A service was

successfully moved on January 15, from the Inmarsat-3 satellite located at 54 degrees West to an Inmarsat-2 spacecraft at 98 degrees West. The relocation precedes entry into commercial service of the new Inmarsat-4 F2 satellite, launched last November, to provide voice and broadband data across North and South America and, ultimately, the Atlantic Ocean. The change affects only the Inmarsat A service in the AOR-W and is a result of the need to avoid interference with the new Inmarsat 4 F2 satellite, which is being positioned at the same orbital location as the current Inmarsat-3 satellite covering the region. *Story courtesy of SpaceDaily*

Wireless Matrix Corporation announced that it has executed a contract extension with its satellite service provider **Mobile Satellite Ventures (MSV)** for services to January, 2008. Wireless Matrix and MSV have been partners since 1997. The contract extension provides Wireless Matrix with an additional satellite channel to accommodate anticipated subscriber growth. Wireless Matrix is a developer and provider of enterprise-class wireless data services for business-critical operations involving mobile workforces and remote assets. Wireless Matrix mobile services are deployed in major corporate industrial markets including oil and gas, utilities, transportation and field service. The Company delivers a data network service that provides 100% real-time wireless communications coverage to all of North America. *Story courtesy of Mobile Satellite Headline News*

SES ASTRA, an **SES GLOBAL** company signed an agreement with the Czech free-to-air leisure and shopping

channel TOP TV for digital capacity on ASTRA at the orbital position 19.2(degree) East. TOP TV is the fourth Czech free-to-air channel transmitted via ASTRA at 19.2(degree) East, following the music channel Ocko TV, the parliamentary channel 24.cz and the public news channel CT24. *Story courtesy of MarketWatch*

The Federal Communications Commission has granted **Globalstar LLC** authority to offer Ancillary Terrestrial Component services (ATC) in the U.S. in conjunction with its mobile satellite services. In an FCC Order, the Commission granted Globalstar authority to operate ATC base stations and mobile terminals that will serve the public interest, convenience, and necessity. The ATC authority allows Globalstar to use 11 MHz of its 1.6/2.4 GHz satellite radio frequencies for a complementary terrestrial wireless service permitting the company to develop integrated mobile voice and data solutions virtually anywhere including urban areas and indoors. With ATC, Globalstar said it can offer a ubiquitous and seamless wireless solution for various voice, broadband data, and multi media wireless applications. *Story courtesy of SatNews Daily*

Globalstar announced that its independent gateway operator in Korea, DACOM Corporation, plans to offer simplex, or one-way, data services to Globalstar customers throughout Korea, much of Southeast Asia, parts of China, as well as the Western Pacific and Sea of Japan maritime regions. The capability to offer simplex data service and solutions is the result of additional hardware being added at the ground station or satellite gateway

operated by Dacom. The satellite gateway is used to provide Globalstar customers with access to ground based telephone and data networks via the Globalstar satellite constellation. Globalstar recently purchased a number of new gateway hardware appliances in order to expand its simplex data coverage to various operators around the world. Using the Globalstar Satellite network and a modem solution, companies will be able to economically monitor their assets from virtually anywhere within the Globalstar simplex coverage area. The data is sent back to a customer's control and monitoring facility via the Globalstar constellation of low-earth-orbiting satellites. This information can be received at any time from remote installations beyond the reach of ground-based communications systems. *Story courtesy of Mobile Satellite Headline News*

Iridium Satellite is supplying mobile satellite phone systems for a group of amateur "ham" radio operators who are undertaking a "DXpedition" this month. The purpose of the DXpedition is to establish up to nine temporary radio stations on a remote uninhabited ice-bound island near Antarctica. The radio site will be operational on Peter I Island for approximately two weeks in February. During that time, ham radio operators all over the world will have an opportunity to log calls to the station. The Iridium satellite phones will allow the team to stay in touch with home, obtain weather forecasts, provide daily uploads of log information and updates from the island. Updates will include photos and possibly video clips, which the DXpedition group will post to their website. Discovered by a Russian explorer in 1821, Peter I Island is

more than 450 km from the nearest land in West Antarctica. *Story courtesy of SpaceDaily*

Inmarsat is supporting a project that aims to bring computer and Internet access to young people in Lebanon's most neglected and battle-scarred region. The E-Caravan is travelling between a cluster of 12 remote villages, starting in the Sour district, where illiteracy and unemployment rates are significantly higher than the national average. The project offers two to four-month computer training courses for users of all levels, with the aim of training more than 1,600 people in 208 days. Inmarsat is supporting the initiative with its unique high-speed data **BGAN** service, which provides always-on connectivity to the Internet in areas where the terrestrial network is poor or non-existent. E-Caravan was launched in the capital Beirut by the United Nations- Economic and Social Council for Western Asia (UN ESCWA) in partnership with the Lebanese non-governmental organization Fondation Saradar, which helps disadvantaged communities. *Story courtesy of SpaceDaily*

World Communication Center (WCC) announced the addition of **Inmarsat** to WCC's existing satellite Internet and **Iridium** product lines. The availability of Inmarsat satellite telephone, networking and broadband Internet equipment and services enhances WCC's ability to serve enterprise-sized businesses' satellite communication needs. The new offerings include the Nera WorldPro 1000 -- the world's smallest mobile broadband satellite terminal and the first terminal to supply the highly powerful BGAN

(Broadband Global Area Network) service. As the world's first mobile communications service to provide simultaneous voice and broadband communications on one channel, Inmarsat's BGAN service can globally transmit data rapidly at speeds of up to half a megabit per second. BGAN service is currently available in Europe and Africa, with a highly anticipated global availability in first quarter of 2006 as Inmarsat launches the remaining BGAN satellites. *Story courtesy of Mobile Satellite Headline News*

DirecTV and **EchoStar** conveyed serious concern to the Federal Communications Commission regarding issues about possibly supplying localized information to viewers from the Emergency Alert System (EAS), noting that such an effort could be difficult - if not impossible - for small dish services. In comments sent to the FCC, DirecTV said distribution of state and local EAS messages by satellite TV presents several challenges due to the national character and technical restraints of DBS service. Nonetheless, DirecTV said it's looking into options in which it can voluntarily alert subscribers to regional emergency conditions as a complement to EAS efforts from local broadcasters and other local news sources. DirecTV reminded the commission it already provides state and local emergency information to subscribers by retransmitting state and local alerts aired by the local broadcast stations it delivers to customers. In addition, DirecTV said it could dedicate a full-time channel, available nationwide to all subscribers, that would carry national, state and local EAS alerts. During the Hurricane Katrina disaster, DirecTV had a channel carrying

official messages from federal entities and the Red Cross, live press conferences from government and public safety officials, and other information. In its comments, EchoStar also reiterated the limitations DBS faces in delivering local EAS information. *Story courtesy of SkyREPORT*

In comments on EAS matters sent to the Federal Communications Commission last week, **XM Satellite Radio** continued to hold out its commitment to becoming part of the system by transmitting national emergency alerts on all of its channels and state and local emergency alerts on its instant traffic, weather and alert channels. XM has 21 local traffic, weather and alert channels, which provide subscribers with updates on traffic and weather conditions for the metropolitan regions they serve as well as critical information such as Amber Alerts. The company said it could provide state and local emergency alerts for additional regions if a single entity were established to collect and transmit all state and local EAS alerts, or if state and local EAS sources can transmit alerts directly to XM. *Story courtesy of SkyREPORT*

Total advertising revenues for both **XM Satellite Radio** and **Sirius Satellite Radio** will reach \$481.6 million by 2012, up from \$9.4 million in 2004 according to Research and Markets' eMarketer research: *The Satellite Radio Report*. Although XM currently brings in more advertising revenues than Sirius, by the end of the decade, the report, quoting Deutsche Bank, predicts that this situation will have reversed. Both Sirius and XM feature commercial-free music stations, but have some commercials on their talk and news shows. These include on-air

reads by radio personalities, which can bring in thousands or even tens of thousands of dollars per read, depending on the popularity of a show. Broadcasting coast to coast, satellite radio offers marketers a national audience for their advertising, an opportunity not available with terrestrial radio. Both companies also plan to offer subscribers the ability to purchase songs and content they hear on the radio as they listen, offering another income stream. *Story courtesy of SatNews Daily*

Sirius approached the Federal Communications Commission with issues about competitor **XM Satellite Radio** and its plans to acquire **WCS Wireless**, and reiterated that the agency should finish its ongoing rulemaking concerning terrestrial repeaters supporting satellite radio services. Sirius' specific concerns, outlined during a meeting company officials held last week with FCC staff, dealt with the co-location of WCS and DARS terrestrial transmitters, and whether those moves would create new interference problems. The nation's two satellite radio companies rely on terrestrial repeaters in cities to fill gaps of missing coverage. Sirius suggested that the FCC defer consideration of the XM/WCS transaction until the terrestrial repeater rulemaking is completed. *Story courtesy of SkyREPORT*

Worldspace, Inc. announced it finished 2005 with more than 115,000 subscribers globally. During the fourth quarter, Worldspace said it added more than 40,000 net new subscribers, increasing its subscriber base by more than 50 percent in the fourth quarter alone. At the end of 2005, Worldspace was offering the service in nine cities in India, including Mumbai,

New Delhi, Bangalore, Chennai, Hyderabad, Kochi, Pune, Ahmedabad, and Chandigarh, covering a population of approximately 29 million through 650 retail locations and 550 direct sales force agents. *Story courtesy of SatNews Daily*

Sea Launch reported that its Sea Odyssey Launch Platform and Sea Launch Commander have departed home port in Long Beach, Calif., for its first mission of the year, flying **EchoStar's** future satellite. Sea Launch said it's preparing to launch the EchoStar X broadcast satellite on Feb. 8, at the opening of a 49-minute launch window, at 3:35 p.m. Pacific. The vessels are on their way to the launch site in international waters of the Pacific Ocean. The EchoStar X satellite, built by **Lockheed Martin Commercial Space Systems**, is a high-power Ku-Band A2100-AX spacecraft that will enable DISH Network to deliver expanded TV services and channel offerings. This is Sea Launch's second mission for EchoStar and

first mission with a Lockheed Martin spacecraft, the company said. *Story courtesy of SkyREPORT*

The U.S. government announced an upgrade to GPS technology called L2C. The new signal has increased power output resulting in a stronger signal in cities, indoors and other areas where current signals are difficult to receive. The technology comes as expected with the latest launch of the **GPS IIR-14** back in September of last year. The L2C signal is now available, but users will not be able to access it before they update their chips and devices. The new signal was designed specifically for commercial users. *Story courtesy of T.O. Whenham, Mobile Satellite Headline News*

Upcoming SIA Meetings and Events

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

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