



Director's Report

September 27, 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 Christina Langlois at (202) 349-3632.

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Recent News

The **Federal Communications Commission** announced the launch of the Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau. The events of September 11, 2001 and last year's hurricane season underscored America's dependence on an effective national telecommunications infrastructure. The new bureau will build on the Commission's longstanding commitment to meet the needs of public safety by promoting robust, reliable and resilient communications services in times of emergency. The Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau is designed to provide an efficient, effective and responsive organizational structure to address matters related to public safety, homeland security, and emergency management and preparedness. The bureau is responsible for the combined public safety-related functions that were previously dispersed among the other bureaus and offices. It will include three divisions: Policy Division, Public Communications Outreach & Operations Division and Communications Systems Analysis Division. [Link to Additional Information](#)

ARTEL, Inc. made the top 25 IT Employers list in the DC Metro area in Washington Business Journal (Sept. 8-14th issue) [Link to Additional Information](#)

Alliant Techsystems, Lockheed Martin, and Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne announced that they have teamed together in preparation for NASA's Ares I Upper Stage

procurement, planned for early 2007. The three companies have developed a complementary relationship, leveraging their strong experience and capabilities on NASA Human Space Flight programs to provide the Ares I project a springboard to minimize program costs, maintain aggressive development and test schedules, and reduce the technical risk going forward. ATK is responsible for the Ares I first stage hardware, which includes the interface and separation with the upper stage. Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne is responsible for the liquid-fuel J-2x engine and related interfaces with the main propulsion system of the Ares I upper stage. And Lockheed Martin is providing the avionics for the early Ares I -1 test flight - and is a recognized industry expert on large cryogenic tanks that are essential to Ares I success. [Link to Additional Information](#)

SES AMERICOM announced more than 30 leading television programmers and networks representing 120 channels have signed IPTV transport agreements with SES AMERICOM and its [IP-PRIME™ IPTV Television Broadcast Center](#). Starz!/Encore, A&E Television Networks, Hallmark Channels, and Lifetime Networks headline a growing lineup, which is expected to surpass the 200 channel mark by the time IP-PRIME makes its commercial debut later this year. The centralized, satellite delivered IPTV solution originates from SES AMERICOM's IPTV distribution center



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based in Vernon Valley, New Jersey, where high-end video programming and content is received, processed, and then transported nationwide by satellite to authorized video hubs and consumer set top boxes. [Link to Additional Information](#)

Integral Systems, Inc., announced the award by the U.S. Air Force of two cost plus award fee modifications totaling \$7.8 million to modify the Command and Control System-Consolidated (CCS-C) effort to support the Wideband Global SATCOM (WGS) program. This change provides the full development capability for all on-orbit satellite command procedures to support the first WGS launch in fiscal year 2007. The CCS-C program provides an upgraded capability to command and control the Air Force's communication satellites, including the Defense Satellite Communication System (DSCS), Milstar, Advanced EHF (AEHF), and WGS. [Link to Additional Information](#)

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has awarded an industry team led by **The Boeing Company** a contract for the department's technology component of its Secure Border Initiative (SBI) effort, SBInet. The contract work will be performed over a three-year period with three one-year options. Boeing's solution concentrated on using proven, low risk, off-the-shelf technology to ensure SBInet will significantly improve the availability of information and tools to Border Patrol agents so they can better detect, identify, classify and resolve illegal border activity by those who pose a threat to the United States. [Link to Additional Information](#)

The Boeing Company has completed Spacecraft Thermal Vacuum (SCTV) testing for the first of its Wideband Gapfiller Satellites (WGS). The tests, conducted at the

Boeing Satellite Development Center in El Segundo, Calif., evaluated the WGS operating systems' ability to withstand the extreme temperatures of space. Over a two-month period, Boeing completed the demanding tests inside its largest thermal-vacuum chamber, which provided the best representation of the space environment by removing all air and eliminating the ability to dissipate heat through convection. [Link to Additional Information](#)

Hughes Communications, Inc. announced that it has received notification from NASDAQ that its common stock has been approved for listing on the NASDAQ Global Market, subject to standard listing requirements. Trading of Hughes' common stock on the NASDAQ Global Market is expected to commence with the opening of trading on Friday, September 22, 2006. Hughes' common stock has been quoted on the Over-the-Counter ("OTC") Bulletin Board market since it became a publicly traded company in February 2006, but will change its trading symbol to "HUGH" on the NASDAQ Global Market system. [Link to Additional Information](#)

Intelsat, Ltd. announced that its IS-802 satellite, located at 33° E, experienced a sudden and unexpected anomaly on September 21, 2006, at approximately 8:27 p.m. E.T. The Intelsat satellite control center is communicating with the satellite and the satellite is under control and accepting commands. Intelsat is in the process of making alternative capacity available to its IS-802 customers, in accordance with existing contingency plans. The satellite, launched in 1997, furnishes telecommunications services to customers on the African continent and in the Indian Ocean Region. [Link to Additional Information](#)

Wilson Ship Management has decided to fit its fleet of more than 45 ships with **Iridium** satellite terminals in a move to provide a cost-effective integrated Ship Security Alert System (SSAS) and e-mail solution. Dualog AS is supplying the hardware and software for the Wilson ships under a service contract with Applied Satellite Technology (AST), an Iridium service provider. The Dualog solution is designed to integrate all available communication technologies into a single package. [Link to Additional Information](#)

Iridium Satellite, in conjunction with its service provider Marlink, is providing two-way data communications with a remote unmanned buoy measuring ice thickness in the Arctic Ocean as part of a program aimed at detecting climate change at high latitudes. The Sea Ice Thickness Observation System (SITHOS) was developed by Christian Michelson Research (CMR), a Norwegian scientific research organization. It was deployed in late 2005 at 84 degrees north and 60 degrees west. [Link to Additional Information](#)

SkyTerra Communications, Inc. and **Mobile Satellite Venture LP** announced that it has completed the closing of the previously announced transactions to consolidate the ownership and control of MSV. As a result of the transactions completed, SkyTerra now owns approximately 52% of the outstanding limited partnership interests of MSV and approximately 78% of the outstanding common stock of its general partner, each on a fully-diluted basis. [Link to Additional Information](#)

SES GLOBAL announces that its operating companies SES ASTRA and SES AMERICOM will support the worldwide non-profit initiative "One Laptop per Child" (OLPC). The initiative aims at improving

the communication and education infrastructure in developing countries by launching a low cost, web-connected laptop. [Link to Additional Information](#)

News reports suggested that **News Corp.** and **Liberty Media** are discussing an agreement that would include swapping News Corp.'s 40 percent stake in DirecTV - worth about \$9 billion - for Liberty's 18 percent hold on News Corp. (valued currently at \$11 billion). According to Wachovia's Jeff Wlodarczak citing a CNBC report, News Corp. owner Rupert Murdoch is souring on DirecTV and his company is attempting to resolve the 18 percent ownership stake issue by the Oct. 20 shareholder meeting. Press reports have noted that Liberty is also talking to News Corp. regarding its TV stations, the report said. *Courtesy of SkyREPORT.*

Verizon and **DirecTV** entered into an agreement to collectively serve the multiple dwelling unit (MDU) market with a bundle of services, an effort the companies said takes aim at cable and its triple-play offerings. Verizon said the multi-year agreement will enable it to serve as the single point of contact for a bundle of offerings that includes the telco's broadband and phone services in addition to DirecTV's offerings. Verizon said it will offer the DirecTV bundle in locations where it does not offer its own entertainment services, such as the fiber-supported FiOS TV. *Courtesy of SkyREPORT.*

Emerging Markets Communications (EMC) has just connected an EMC Quick Deployment in Beirut, Lebanon . Since March 2006, several EMC Quick Deployment kits have been stored in the logistics centers of world renowned NGOs to whom EMC provides services. These kits include EMC pre-staged and pre-configured

antennas which are specifically designed for emergency response and are ready to be dispatched and deployed in very little time. August 2006 an EMC Quick Deployment kit was delivered from a logistics center in Dubai, UAE, and installed in Beirut . Considering all the challenges of installing a VSAT in a war zone EMC provided the connectivity in less than 48 hours, from the time it left the logistics center. The EMC Quick Deployment kit installed in Beirut is fully operational and facilitating communication which is essential to coordinate humanitarian assistance in the region. [Link to Additional Information](#)

Asia Broadcast Satellite (ABS), a newly formed satellite operator, announces the acquisition of Lockheed Martin Space Communications Ventures, Ltd. (LMSCV) and Lockheed Martin Intersputnik, Ltd. (LMI) from Lockheed Martin Global Telecommunications (LMGT). LMSCV owns and operates the LMI-1 satellite positioned at 75 Degrees East and LMI has the exclusive right to market the capacity on

LMI-1. The LMI-1 satellite, a high-powered Lockheed Martin A2100AX spacecraft, covers 4 continents and over 4 billion people from Europe, Asia, the Middle East, Africa and Australia. As a result of the transaction, LMSCV and LMI have been renamed Asia Broadcast Satellite Holdings and Asia Broadcast Satellite Limited, respectively. The LMI-1 satellite has also been renamed ABS-1. [Link to Additional Information](#)

SES Astra announced that its subsidiary SES Astra TechCom has been selected to participate in Vietnam's first public satellite project Vinasat-1. The project, which is led by the Vietnamese Posts and Telecommunications Group (VNPT), will have Lockheed Martin Commercial Space Systems (LMCSS) as the main contractor. [Link to Additional Information](#)

Iridium Satellite LLC announced that it has named Matthew J. Desch, 48, as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the company. [Link to Additional Information](#)

Upcoming Meetings and Events

26-28 September 2006 – APSCC 2006 Satellite Conference and Exhibition, “Satellites – Growing with Asia”, Hotel Lotte World, Seoul, Korea; info@apscc.or.kr; www.apscc.or.kr/event/apscc2006.asp

3 October 2006 – National Space Club Lunch, “Keith Masback, Director, Source Operations Group, National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency,” L’Enfant Plaza Hotel, Washington, DC *E-mail reservations to* rorynsc@starpower.net with a copy to efreelan@courtesyassoc.com

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

12 October 2006 – SSPI Technology Summit for teens and parents in DC area, McKinley Technology High School, 151 T Street, NE, Washington DC. *For more information contact:* rick.kelsey@k12.dc.us at McKinley High School or ltondro@erols.com at SSPI Mid-Atlantic Chapter.

17 October 2006 – National Space Club Annual Fall reception at Goddard Space Flight Center, Call 202-973-8661, opt 2 with questions or contact rorynsc@starpower.net.



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13-15 November 2006 – Global MilSatCom, Millennium Conference Centre, London
<http://www.smi-online.co.uk/goto/milsatcom.asp?emref=R25ER91632695>

28 November 2006 - ISCe Satellite Investment Symposium NYC '06, New York City
<http://www.isis-nyc.com/>

29-30 November 2006 – SATCON 2006, New York City www.satconexpo.com

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

5-7 December 2006 – DoD SATCOM Users Workshop, Tyson’s Corner Marriott, McLean, VA. For more information contact SIA at info@sia.org.