



President's Report

November 4, 2008

The Satellite Industry Association (SIA) President's Report is a weekly executive capsule covering current satellite industry news and events. See the bottom of page for additional information.

SIA Activity

SIA Co-Hosts 4th Annual DoD Commercial Satcom Users Workshop, December 9-11, 2008 at the Bethesda Marriott, Bethesda, MD. This annual event brings together leaders from DoD Combatant Commands, Services and Agencies with satellite operators, service providers, resellers, ground equipment suppliers, and manufacturers. [Link to additional information](#)

SIA filed FCC Reply Comments on October 27, 2008, in the **Proceeding on FY2008 Regulatory Fees**. SIA asked the FCC to tailor its regulatory fees methodology to more closely align with relevant costs and to continue to assess DBS regulatory fees on a per-satellite basis.

SIA also filed Comments on November 3, 2008, in response to the **FCC Third Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in the 700 MHz docket**. SIA supported the FCC proposal to retain the requirement that a D Block licensee make available at least one handset with integrated satellite solution and that 1) dual-mode devices be made available within a reasonable period after licensing and 2) the requirement be expanded to include at least one model of each major device type with a minimum of 20 percent of all models being satellite enabled rather than limiting the requirement to a single handset.

Recent News

After 32 years of serving ships at sea and scientists at the South Pole, an aging communications satellite owned by **Intelsat Ltd.** has been retired. The Marisat-F2 satellite, manufactured by **Hughes** Aircraft Inc. and launched in 1976, had only a five-year design life, yet until the end, the communications payload continued operating within its original specifications, Intelsat engineers said. Once dubbed "The Little Satellite That Could," Marisat-F2 is believed to have been the oldest commercial communications satellite still actively operating in space. Engineers at Intelsat General responsible for managing the orbit of the 700-pound satellite determined recently that its support sub-systems were finally near the end of operating life. [Link to additional information](#)

The **Lockheed Martin** team developing the next-generation Global Positioning System (GPS) spacecraft, known as GPS III, has successfully completed on-schedule an Integrated Baseline Review with the U.S. Air Force, an important program milestone that precedes the Preliminary Design Review. GPS III will improve position, navigation, and timing services for the warfighter and civil users worldwide and provide advanced anti-jam capabilities yielding superior system security, accuracy and reliability. [Link to additional information](#)

SES AMERICOM, an SES company, announced that a total of 16 transponders were under contract and utilizing the new Ku-band capacity at 125° West Longitude within the first month of AMC-21 becoming commercially available. AMC-21's high powered 50-U.S.state, Mexico, Southern Canada and Caribbean coverage is proving to be in great demand across multiple

segments: media, enterprise and government. They are currently providing service to customers such as PBS, U.S. Army, U.S. Marine Corps (through **Arrowhead**), U.S. Northern Command (through **ARTEL**) and maritime broadband users. In addition, its occasional use capacity is fully booked to support major networks' coverage of the upcoming U.S. election. [Link to additional information](#)

Stratos Global Corp. introduced its new BGAN SCADA service to provide high-performance connectivity for remote, unmanned SCADA applications. The new service is made possible by an agreement, announced this week, that names Stratos as the exclusive global distributor of Addvalue's new SABRE Ranger BGAN SCADA terminal. Addvalue is a leading designer and global supplier of BGAN terminals. [Link to additional information](#)

Mobile Satellite Ventures announced that both it and its joint venture partner Mobile Satellite Ventures Inc. have selected **Telesat** to manage in-orbit operations of both the MSV-1 and MSV-2 next-generation satellites to be launched into respective U.S. and Canadian orbital slots. Telesat now manages flight operations of MSV's current generation MSAT satellites. The agreement calls for Telesat to conduct in-orbit operations of MSV's two next generation satellites, currently scheduled for launch in 2009 and 2010, from its Satellite Operations Center in Ottawa, Canada, and its back-up facility in Mount Jackson, VA. [Link to additional information](#)

SES NEW SKIES, an SES company, announced that Microspace, a wholly owned subsidiary of Capitol Broadcasting Company and a leader in satellite services for business communications, digital cinema and digital signage, has contracted an additional 5.5 Mbps of capacity on the NSS-7 satellite at the orbital location of 338 degrees East. Microspace signed a five year agreement to provide uplink and bandwidth on NSS-7 from the Washington Mediaport to Europe for "Next Generation Retail Digital Signage Applications." Digital signage is a 1billion USD industry that's growing at a breakneck pace. [Link to additional information](#)

2008 Upcoming Meetings and Events

Ahead:

December 9-11 – SIA Co-Sponsored DoD Commercial SATCOM User's Workshop, Bethesda Marriott, Bethesda, MD

January 18-21 – Pacific Telecom Council PTC '09, Hilton Hawaiian Village, Honolulu, HI
<http://www.ptc.org/>

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