



# President's Report

April 9, 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

The Satellite Industry Association ("SIA") encouraged the Federal Communications Commission ("Commission") to ensure that satellite-specific technological and operational challenges are reflected in any new high-definition must carry rules imposed on Direct Broadcast Satellite ("DBS") providers. [Link to additional information](#)

The Satellite Industry Association ("SIA") provided comments in the consultation by the United Kingdom's regulator, Ofcom, on "Authorisation of terrestrial mobile networks complementary to 2 GHz mobile satellite systems," ("Consultation") published on January 15, 2008. [Link to additional information](#)

## Recent News

**DataPath, Inc.** has been awarded \$11.5 million to provide field services for a critical network of DataPath Deployable Ku Band Earth Terminals in the U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) area of responsibility. These DKET systems are built and installed by DataPath and used by the U.S. military as critical satellite communications hubs that deliver high-bandwidth capabilities on the battlefield. [Link to additional information](#)

**Intelsat, Ltd.** and SkyVision Global Networks LLC announced that SkyVision has signed a multi-year, multi-transponder contract for capacity on the Intelsat 601 satellite. This contract will provide SkyVision the ability to offer 'end-to-end' solutions, deploying standard and customized IP service platforms for its customers in Africa. [Link to additional information](#)

**The Boeing Company** and its TEAM TSAT industry partners have successfully demonstrated the readiness of the advanced electronics that will be used in the Transformational Satellite Communications System (TSAT). Tests of the TSAT Application Specific Integrated Circuit (ASIC) demonstrated the microchip's functionality, speed and suitability for spaceflight. The tests at Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas, simulated the most challenging radiation environment TSAT will experience during operation. [Link to additional information](#)

**Hughes Network Systems, LLC** announced that it successfully activated the first HughesNet<sup>®</sup> consumer subscriber for broadband Internet service utilizing its SPACEWAY<sup>™</sup> 3 satellite. Launched by Arianespace, SPACEWAY 3 was subsequently placed into geostationary orbit by Boeing in 2007, at which time Hughes assumed operational control. Extensive pre-commercial testing has been completed since then and Hughes has now achieved its goal of commencing commercial service. [Link to additional information](#)

In a ceremony heralding the success of the U.S. Air Force's Global Positioning System Block IIR modernization effort (GPS IIR-M), **Lockheed Martin** announced it has completed work on the

last satellite in the program constellation, which features a demonstration payload that will transmit the new civil signal, known as L5. Preparations are now underway to ship the satellite to Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Fla. for a scheduled launch. [Link to additional information](#)

Following previous announcements about two key conferences which will each focus on the contribution of telecommunications applications, services, and technologies to successful oil & gas exploration and production, GVF and UK-EMP have now further announced a revision of the dates and venue for the third annual 'Oil & Gas Communications: North Africa & the Middle East' event. [Link to additional information](#)

The first of six Tracking and Data Relay Satellite (TDRS) system spacecraft built by **Northrop Grumman Corporation** completed 25 years of successful on-orbit operations, setting a new standard for long life and reliability. [Link to additional information](#)

On the occasion of Asia Pacific Maritime, **Eutelsat Communications** and SpeedCast announce they are jointly launching a new maritime broadband communications service addressing the commercial shipping sector. The partnership between both companies brings together expertise from Eutelsat, one of the world's largest satellite operators and SpeedCast, a major satellite communications service provider in Asia, wholly owned by AsiaSat, the leading regional satellite operator in Asia. [Link to additional information](#)

**Spacenet Inc.** announced that it has signed a contract to provide IHG (InterContinental Hotels Group) an upgraded satellite data network and managed network services to 2,500 locations across the United States and Canada. IHG is one of the world's largest hotel groups by number of rooms and operates seven hotel brands including InterContinental Hotels & Resorts, Crowne Plaza, Hotel Indigo, Holiday Inn, Holiday Inn Express, Staybridge Suites and Candlewood Suites. [Link to additional information](#)

Another German military radar reconnaissance satellite launched from Russia, joining an orbital constellation of craft designed to peer through the night to spy on locations around the world. The craft, called SAR-Lupe 4 by the German military, began a half-hour trip to space at 1715 GMT from the Plesetsk Cosmodrome in far northern Russia, according to OHB-System, the prime contractor. The 105-foot-tall Kosmos 3M rocket lofted the 1,700-pound satellite to an orbital perch about 300 miles high. [Link to additional information](#)

More than a week after actually approving the item, the Federal Communications Commission on Thursday came out with its formal order on carriage of digital broadcast signals via satellite TV. And the rules released Thursday didn't offer any surprises. With the FCC mandate, satellite TV services will be required to carry digital-only stations on request in markets in which they are providing local TV service, and to deliver all high-def signals in a market if station signals are carried in HD. As expected, the rules will allow satellite TV platforms to phase in the local HD markets under a four-year process that begins after the nation's switch to digital TV. *Story Courtesy of SkyREPORT*

**SES** spacecraft controllers recently put the finishing touches on relocating the AMC-2 satellite from 85° West to 101° West, where it will provide service alongside AMC-4. [Link to additional information](#)

## **2008 Upcoming Meetings and Events**

### **This Month:**

**April 10** – SSPI ASIA: Challenges and Opportunities for the Satellite Industry, 875 15th Street, N.W., Lobby level Washington DC 20005, RSVP [sspi@erols.com](mailto:sspi@erols.com)

**April 14 – 17**– NAB Patriot Antenna Systems, Las Vegas, Nevada [www.sepatriot.com](http://www.sepatriot.com)

**April 15** – WSBR *What Keeps Space Insurers Up At Night*, The University Club University Hall 1135 16th Street, N.W. Washington, D.C., RSVP [wsbr@erols.com](mailto:wsbr@erols.com)

**April 15-16** – Telecommunications and Media Forum, The Residence Palace Brussels

**April 21-25** – Meeting of the OAS InterAmerican Telecommunications Commission/CITEL Permanent Consultative Committee II, Washington DC [http://www.citel.oas.org/ccp2-NextMeet.asp#Information\\_about\\_PCC.II](http://www.citel.oas.org/ccp2-NextMeet.asp#Information_about_PCC.II)

### **Ahead:**

**May 5 – 9**– DISA Customer Partnership Conference 2008, Disney's Coronado Springs Resort in Orlando, Fla. <http://www.disa.mil/conferences/index.html>

**June 10-12** – ISCe 2008/ICSSC 2008 and the SIA Co-Sponsored Navy SATCOM Users Workshop - Marriott Hotel and Marina, San Diego, CA [www.isce.com](http://www.isce.com)

**September 23 -25** – APSCC 2008 Satellite "Satellites on the Move"

Jeju Island, Korea <http://www.apsc.org.kr/event/apsc2008.asp>

**September 29 - October 3**– IAC 2008 International Astronautical Congress and Exhibition, Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre and Crowne Plaza Hotel in Glasgow, Scotland, [www.iac2008.co.uk](http://www.iac2008.co.uk)

**October 9** – ISCe Satellite Investment Symposium (ISIS NYC '08) - The Princeton Club, New York, NY [www.isis-nyc.com](http://www.isis-nyc.com)

**October 29 – 31** – TCIP 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference Hyatt Regency Chicago Chicago, IL [www.ctc.org](http://www.ctc.org)

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