



NEWS – For Immediate Release

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SIA APPLAUDS THE FCC’S RECOGNITION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF SATELLITE IN ITS BROADBAND DEPLOYMENT REPORT

Washington, D.C., February 5, 2018 – The Satellite Industry Association (SIA) today applauded the release of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) 2018 Broadband Deployment Report. In the report, adopted by the Commission on Feb. 3rd, the FCC newly acknowledged satellite providers as being capable of meeting the 25 Mbps/3 Mbps speed benchmark for broadband services. The FCC stated in the report, “We reject arguments of certain commenters that broadband services with relatively higher latency, such as satellite, should be categorically excluded from our section 706 analysis.” The Report stated that, “As of December 2016 and including satellite service in our estimate, we find that just over 14 million Americans are unserved by fixed 25 Mbps/3 Mbps service.” The 14 million figure is down from the previous estimate of 24 million persons, as it now includes satellite provided broadband service that meets the 25/3 speed threshold.

“SIA applauds the Commission’s recognition that satellite already provides millions of Americans with broadband service,” said Tom Stroup, President of SIA. SIA also commends the FCC’s acknowledgment that new satellites and space-based networks could offer additional broadband connectivity in the future as satellites will play a significant role in the deployment of next-generation services for Americans.”

To view a complete copy of the 2018 Broadband Deployment Report, please click on the link below.
https://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2018/db0202/FCC-18-10A1.pdf

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About The Satellite Industry Association

SIA is a U.S.-based trade association providing representation of the leading satellite operators, service providers, manufacturers, launch services providers, and ground equipment suppliers. For more than two decades, SIA has advocated on behalf of the U.S. satellite industry on policy, regulatory, and legislative issues affecting the satellite business. For more information, visit www.sia.org.

SIA Executive Members include: AT&T Services, Inc.; The Boeing Company; EchoStar Corporation; Intelsat S.A.; Iridium Communications Inc.; Kratos Defense & Security Solutions; Ligado Networks; Lockheed Martin Corporation; Maxar Technologies; Northrop Grumman

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