

# APSCC Monthly e-Newsletter

## FEBRUARY 2017

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*News in this issue has been collected from 1 January to 31 January.*

## SATELLITE BUSINESS

### **Harris Corporation Completes Sale of Its CapRock Communications Business to SpeedCast**

January 3, 2017 - Harris Corporation has completed the previously announced sale of its CapRock Communications commercial business to SpeedCast International Limited for \$425 million in cash. Proceeds from the transaction will be used to pay down debt and return cash to shareholders. CapRock, which was part of the company's Critical Networks segment, is a premier global provider of managed satellite, terrestrial and wireless communications solutions for the cruise and energy markets.

### **Covenant Transportation Group Selects ORBCOMM for Fleet-wide Cold Chain Telematics Solution**

January 3 2017 - ORBCOMM Inc., a global provider of Machine-to-Machine (M2M) and Internet of Things (IoT) solutions, has announced that Covenant Transportation Group (CTG), one of the top truckload providers in the United States, has selected ORBCOMM to provide its industry-leading cold chain telematics solution to track, monitor and control its fleet of refrigerated trailers at Covenant Transport and Southern Refrigerated Transport. ORBCOMM will provide cellular connectivity, state-of-the-art hardware, wireless fuel and door sensors, along with a web-based reporting platform for optimal fleet management.

### **Yahsat Orders Hughes JUPITER System with DVB-S2X to Enhance and Expand Services on Y1B Satellite**

January 4, 2017 - Hughes Network Systems, LLC announced that UAE-based satellite operator Al Yah Satellite Communications Company (Yahsat) is implementing the latest version of the Hughes JUPITER™ System, incorporating the new DVB-S2X air interface standard, which will refresh and expand the services delivered over its Y1B Ka-band satellite. Yahsat's satellite broadband service YahClick serves consumers, businesses and governments in the Middle East, Africa and Central and South West Asia. Upgrading its JUPITER satellite broadband system with DVB-S2X will yield more scalable bandwidth while enhancing performance across all of its service categories. Yahsat's service partners will gain capabilities such as virtual network operator (VNO) access while utilizing existing integrated OSS/BSS and service delivery infrastructure via cloud services. The JUPITER System will also power services over Yahsat's third satellite, Al Yah 3, a new High Throughput Satellite (HTS), which is due to launch in early 2017 and will extend the company's presence in Africa to 19 countries and Brazil.

### **Inmarsat to Provide Connectivity to UAE through Partnership with Global Beam, Virgin Megastore**

January 4, 2017 - Inmarsat plc announced that distribution partner Global Beam Telecom has struck a multi-year agreement with Tecbuy and Virgin Megastores in the United Arab Emirates to sell Inmarsat's GSPS IsatPhone satellite phones and IsatHub terminals to its UAE customers. The devices are immediately available for purchase at three of the largest Virgin Megastores in UAE. Inmarsat's mobile satellite communication solutions allow consumers and business travelers to stay connected using one device and one SIM, regardless of where in the world they travel. The IsatPhone 2, Inmarsat's next-generation handheld satellite phone, offers a robust handset, unrivalled battery life, excellent voice quality and the unparalleled reliability of the Inmarsat network, helping customers connect in the most extreme and remote locations, or simply when local networks are unavailable or slow.

### **Norsat Secures \$3.3M Order for Globetrekker 2.0 Portable Satellite Terminals from U.S. Defense Agency**

January 9, 2017 - Norsat International Inc. (Norsat), a provider of unique and customized communication solutions for remote and challenging applications, has received an approximate \$3.3 million order for its

GLOBETREKKER 2.0 portable satellite terminals from a U.S. Combat Support Agency supporting the U.S. Department of Defense and Intelligence Community. The GLOBETrekker is an intelligent fly-away satellite terminal with unsurpassed reliability, advanced auto-acquire technology, and a flexible deployment platform. A simple one touch interface and the LinkControl™ software allow for automatic satellite acquisition so less experienced operators can easily use the system while multi-tasking on other field operations setup tasks.

#### **Satellite Geolocation Service Launched by Siemens Convergence Creators**

January 9, 2017 - Global solution and service provider Siemens Convergence Creators announced that a novel offering for the satellite communication industry goes into operation. Its new Satellite Geolocation Service allows satellite and service operators to localize satellite signal interference worldwide, with extraordinarily high success rates, and with no upfront infrastructure or personnel costs. When satellite interference occurs, it can be devastating to end-users, whether in homes, businesses, or governments, because it undermines the integrity of satellite communication and compromises the most important feature of communication satellites: secure and reliable communication that is independent of the constraints of ground-based data highways. For satellite operators, the ability to rapidly identify and mitigate interference - intentional or not - is crucial to protecting the core functionality of their most valuable assets and to ensuring flawless satellite service operations.

#### **SES Selects Monics® Enterprise from Kratos to Expand Satellite Fleet RF Monitoring Capabilities**

January 10, 2017 - Kratos Defense & Security Solutions, Inc., a leading National Security Solutions provider, announced that SES has selected Kratos' Monics® Enterprise to expand RF monitoring and interference detection capabilities across its fleet of over 50 geostationary satellites. The latest product in the Monics family, Monics Enterprise was developed for satellite and network operators seeking to scale their RF monitoring capability to track an increasing number of RF signals, support a growing number of dispersed monitoring sites and keep pace with new technologies such as HTS. Monics Enterprise offers a suite of advanced monitoring capabilities that can be added to an existing Monics implementation.

#### **Thuraya SeaStar Brings Full Accessibility to Maritime Satellite Communications**

January 10, 2017 - Thuraya Telecommunications Company announced the launch of Thuraya SeaStar, the new circuit switched voice terminal that brings full and affordable accessibility to maritime communications. Thuraya SeaStar meets the evolving needs of the modern fishing market, introducing the power of modern satellite communications capability to small scale operators. Thuraya's new terminal is ideal for smaller and regional owner operator fishing vessels, although its appeal also extends to other operators looking for support systems. With affordability a driving factor in key maritime market sectors, Thuraya SeaStar will be available at a cost of ownership that lowers the barrier to providing onboard satellite communications.

#### **Comtech PST Corp. Receives Contract Award for High-Power Amplifiers for Medical Application**

January 10, 2017 - Comtech Telecommunications Corp. announced that during its second quarter of fiscal 2017, its New York-based subsidiary, Comtech PST Corp., which is part of Comtech's Government Solutions segment, has received a follow-on contract award for approximately \$4.0 million for solid-state, high-power RF amplifiers from a major domestic medical instrumentation provider. These amplifiers are used by one of the world's largest suppliers of image-guided radiotherapy (IGRT) and image-guided intensity modulated radiation therapy (IMRT) medical equipment providing state-of-the-art solutions for the treatment of cancer. These advanced forms of treatment deliver versatile complex doses of radiation at greater speed and accuracy thereby minimizing damage to surrounding healthy tissue.

#### **EchoStar XIX Satellite with JUPITER High-Throughput Technology Successfully Positioned in Orbital Slot**

January 10, 2017 - Hughes Network Systems, LLC (HUGHES) has begun system level testing of its new EchoStar XIX satellite – the world's highest capacity broadband satellite – following successful placement into its permanent geosynchronous orbital slot at 97.1° West longitude. Designed with Hughes JUPITER™ System high-throughput technology, EchoStar XIX is a multi-spot beam, Ka-band satellite that will power HughesNet® Gen5, the next generation of America's high-speed satellite Internet service. From its 97.1° orbital slot, EchoStar XIX's 138 beams will provide coverage for high-speed Internet service to homes and small businesses in the continental United States, Alaska, Mexico and parts of Canada and Central America.

#### **Thuraya Boosts ITU Disaster Preparedness and Response Efforts**

January 11, 2017 - Thuraya Telecommunications Company has donated new supplies of emergency telecommunication equipment to the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) under the decade old Emergency Telecommunications support arrangement. This donation will strengthen the ITU's capacity in natural

disaster preparedness, search and rescue, and response through the use of state-of-the-art mobile satellite communication equipment. Thuraya's satellite equipment will enhance the scale at which the ITU can deploy mobile communications to assist countries affected by disasters, and strengthen response, relief and recovery interventions. Thuraya's previous donations to the ITU have provided a critical path for relief in emergency and disaster situations. Most recently, in 2016, the ITU deployed Thuraya terminals in flood-stricken Sri Lanka. These units were used to support relief and coordination efforts on the ground during the torrential rains that caused loss of lives and destruction to infrastructure.

### **SES Completes Refinancing of O3b Debt**

January 12, 2017 - SES S.A. announced the refinancing of the remaining O3b debt. Since acquiring the remaining shares in O3b, SES has refinanced the entire USD 1.4 billion of gross debt at a materially lower average funding rate. This will deliver a total of approximately EUR 60 million of annual finance cost savings, starting from 2017. The refinancing was funded using cash that was available at Group level, which included the proceeds of the hybrid bond issued by SES S.A. in November 2016. SES's weighted average cost of funding is around 4%, which is significantly lower than the average cost of the previous O3b debt.

### **Airbus Sells its Shares in Atlas Elektronik**

January 12, 2017 - Airbus Defence and Space has entered into an agreement to sell its 49 percent share in Atlas Elektronik Group to thyssenkrupp AG based in Essen, Germany. With this acquisition, thyssenkrupp, which to date has held a 51 percent share in the company, will become the sole owner of Atlas Elektronik. The sale of its shares in Atlas Elektronik, a supplier of cutting-edge maritime technology, is part of Airbus Defence and Space's divestment program which will allow it to focus on its core business. Closing of the transaction is subject to customary regulatory approvals.

### **Comtech Xicom Technology Receives Order for XTRT-500Ka Ka-Band High-Power TWT Amplifiers**

January 12, 2017 - Comtech Xicom Technology Inc. received an order for XTRT-500Ka, Ka-Band, high-power traveling wave tube amplifiers (TWTAs) System to a Government Agency in Asia. The XTRT-500Ka is to be used in satellite facility for government satellite uplinks. The Comtech Xicom XTRT-500Ka has an intuitive LCD touch screen control front panel which provides an easy-to-use interface for monitoring and controlling the amplifier.

### **Global Eagle Acquires Satellite Communication Payload**

January 13, 2017 - Global Eagle Entertainment Inc. (GEE) has acquired Ku-band payload on an SES communication satellite in a move to boost capacity for its customers in North America, the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean. GEE will rebrand the satellite as Eagle-1. Eagle-1 will be integrated seamlessly into GEE's global network as the company continues to innovate with its own infrastructure and patented technologies to take advantage of the most efficient, cost-competitive global mobility network that combines wideband, high-throughput and ultra-high-throughput satellite components in a frequency-agnostic way.

### **Optus Boosts Western Australia Mobile Coverage with Small Cell Connectivity**

January 16, 2017 - Optus has continued its investment in regional mobile coverage with the installation of nine satellite small cells along almost 2000km of highway across Western Australia. The small units, known as 'small cells', provide the potential for an inexpensive and flexible alternative to traditional mobile towers, and when used in conjunction with satellite connectivity and backhaul, provides the combined benefits of expanding mobile coverage in a concentrated local area in rural, remote and previously unserved locations. The small cells will be located at selected locations on the Highway 1 route between Geraldton and Broome and will boost mobile coverage for residents and travelers across nine remote but significant locations in the northwest of the state. Optus continues to actively explore small cell technology following the first rollout of the satellite small cell provisioning in the Northern Territory in 2016 which boosted mobile network coverage along the Stuart Highway between Katherine and Uluru.

### **SES and GEE Sign Breakthrough Connectivity Deal to Drive Mobility**

January 13, 2017 - SES S.A. announced that Global Eagle Entertainment Inc. (GEE), a leading provider of satellite-based connectivity and media to fast-growing, global mobility markets across air, sea and land, has acquired a Ku-band payload on SES's AMC-3 satellite to boost capacity for its customers in North America, the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean. GEE will rebrand the acquired satellite communications payload as Eagle 1. SES will operate the non-station-kept satellite and will support GEE's strategic plan to optimize the quality of experience for its mobility customers on air land and sea. The breakthrough agreement between SES and GEE aims to open up exciting growth opportunities across the mobility sector, with a unique approach that leverages

healthy, reliable non-station-kept satellites. SES has a diverse global network of more than 50 GEO and 12 MEO satellites, along with intelligent ground infrastructure, which offers a broad and complementary range of Ku-band, Ka-band, C-band and Ku-band HTS (High Throughput Satellite) capacity.

#### **Aireon Announces Successful First Launch for Space-Based ADS-B Network**

January 14, 2017 - Aireon announced the successful launch and deployment of the first ten satellites hosting its space-based automatic dependent surveillance broadcast (ADS-B) system. Part of the Iridium NEXT satellite constellation, Aireon's space-based ADS-B network will transform air traffic management capabilities, providing real-time air traffic surveillance and flight tracking across 100 percent of the planet. Currently, more than 70 percent of the earth, including oceanic and remote airspace, has no existing air traffic surveillance. Aireon congratulates Iridium Communications and its partners, including Thales Alenia Space, Orbital ATK and SpaceX, on a successful first launch of the Iridium NEXT constellation, and looks forward to additional successes.

#### **Thuraya Launches CRYPTTIA Smartphone-based Command and Control System**

January 16, 2017 - Thuraya Telecommunications Company announced the launch of CRYPTTIA, a unique command and control platform developed by EYEONIX SA. For the first time smartphone users can use unified Thuraya and cellular networks for mission critical, crisis management, defense and civil protection operations. CRYPTTIA is a global platform combining both terrestrial and satellite voice technologies to bring push to talk services to smartphone users. CRYPTTIA is an IP-based end to end solution which offers "bring your own device" (BYOD) capability for fast and reliable communications in mission critical environments. It offers speed of deployment and ease of use. CRYPTTIA is the only platform that can be fully operational, from scratch, in less than four hours as a mission critical unified system. The portable version, which is deployable in less than five minutes, serves as a fully operational command, control and decision support system. It requires less than one day to train mobile users, command and control center training is completed in three days, and administrator training takes five days.

#### **EUTELSAT 117 West B All-Electric Satellite Fully Charged and Now in Commercial Service**

January 16, 2017 - Eutelsat Communications announced that its EUTELSAT 117 West B satellite has entered into full commercial service and is now ready to support customers across Latin America. Commercialized by the Eutelsat Americas affiliate, EUTELSAT 117 West B is the second all-electric satellite in Eutelsat's fleet. It is equipped with 48 Ku-band transponders (36MHz equivalent) connected to four beams providing premium coverage of Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean, the Andean region and the Southern Cone. Eutelsat's new satellite complements EUTELSAT 117 West A, launched in 2013, to create a multi-satellite neighbourhood at 117° West, which is already used by Millicom's Tigo Star, Stargroup and Televisa. It will also provide key services to telecom operators and government service providers in Latin America.

#### **Timor Telecom Renews and Expands with O3b Networks**

January 16, 2017 - O3b Networks announced an agreement with Timor Telecom, the leading Timor-Leste Full Service Operator (FSP), to continue providing high-throughput, low-latency connectivity over O3b's innovative satellite-enabled network. Timor Telecom first started using the O3b network in 2014, and has upgraded capacity several times to keep up with soaring data demand and launch mobile data services. The O3b connection provides Timor Telecom with fiber-equivalent internet performance, which has allowed the company to provide a differentiated 3G service to customers across the country. The company leads the nation in telecommunications innovations, and will continue to use the O3b link to deliver ever-improving Quality of Experience (QoE) for subscribers. Timor Telecom receives more than 1Gbps of international connectivity from O3b, delivered to 2 sites, one in Dilli and another in Baucau. With the redundant terminal sites, Timor Telecom has taken full advantage of O3b's expertise in network architecture. The result is Timor Telecom boasting excellent service reliability with network availability exceeding 99.9%.

#### **Cathay Pacific Selects Avionica for Second Generation e-Enablement System**

January 16, 2017 - Cathay Pacific Airways has selected Avionica as the integrator and supplier for their e-Enabled, airborne global connectivity program. Starting in early 2017, Cathay Pacific's second generation e-Enabled system will be deployed across the Cathay Pacific and Cathay Dragon fleets, including the B777, B747, A320 and A330 aircraft types. In selecting Avionica, Cathay Pacific obtains extensive expertise in STC development and installation support for its e-Enablement solution. Avionica's e-Enablement hardware package provides Cathay Pacific a single, common set of hardware across Boeing and Airbus fleets.

### **Gilat and Air Esurfing Join Forces to Provide In-Flight Connectivity for China's Domestic Airline Market**

January 17, 2017 - Gilat Satellite Networks Ltd. announced a strategic partnership with Air Esurfing, a fully owned subsidiary of Air Media Group, to transform the domestic IFC market in China. The partners intend to utilize China's Ka-band HTS capacity for domestic IFC services over mainland China. Gilat and Air Esurfing will join forces to deliver broadband connectivity to airlines throughout China. Gilat will leverage its multi-service HTS platform that will operate with ChinaSatcom's Ka-band capacity planned to be launched in 2017. Gilat's solution will enable continuous service exceeding 100Mbps and servicing many dozens of passengers per aircraft. Gilat will provide a complete IFC terminal including its unique ER6000-A KuKa antenna terminal and its Taurus Modman. The partners will jointly pursue STC certification for the Gilat system with commercial pilots already planned for early 2018.

### **ABS Issued Operator Licenses for Papua New Guinea**

January 17, 2017 - ABS has been granted the Network, Applications and Gateway Operator licenses to serve Papua New Guinea (PNG) from the National Information and Communications Technology Authority (NICTA). The licenses awarded will allow ABS to operate as a telecom operator as well as a satellite service provider. ABS is the first international satellite operator to incorporate a company in PNG, known as ABS Global Satellite Limited (AGSL) to provide information communication technology (ICT) services, registered with the Investment Promotions Authority. ABS has been in partnership with NICTA since 2008, which has resulted in a number of orbital slot positions around the world brought into use by ABS by deploying several satellites currently at such orbital locations. AGSL has met all due diligence requirements and its license applications were approved by the NICTA Board on December 16, 2016. The three Individual Operator Licenses granted by NICTA are technology neutral and now give AGSL the rights to provide ICT services in accordance with NICT (Operator Licensing) Regulation 2010. ABS initially plans to set up a major teleport in Port Moresby to provide connectivity from its Asian gateway through the ABS-6 satellite which will bring cost effective internet connectivity and VSAT services into the country. ABS will be primarily engaged in satellite based or satellite support telecom infrastructure, but where necessary will deploy fiber or microwave to complement the connectivity requirements. Cellular mobile service is also allowed under the license and may be contemplated in the future.

### **ST Engineering's Electronics Arm Acquires 51% Equity Stake in SP Telecommunications**

January 18, 2017 - Singapore Technologies Engineering Ltd (ST Engineering) announced that its electronics arm, Singapore Technologies Electronics Limited (ST Electronics) has entered into a conditional share purchase agreement to acquire a 51% equity interest in SP Telecommunications Pte Ltd (SPTel) from Singapore Power Limited (SP) (Proposed Transaction) for a purchase consideration estimated at S\$54m, to be finalized post-closing, subject to a maximum of S\$60m (Purchase Consideration). SP will retain a 49% equity interest in SPTel. SPTel owns, builds and operates communication and infrastructure services in Singapore. It owns an extensive network of fiber optic back-haul infrastructure and facilities.

### **Airbus Provides Satellite Communications for the French Administration**

January 19, 2017 - Airbus Defence and Space has been awarded a contract to supply satellite communication systems for UGAP, the French public procurement agency. This 4-year contract covers the supply of equipment and services for fixed and mobile satellite communications (Satcom) in the Ku and Ka frequency bands. UGAP is a public institution and the only national procurement agency in France, serving mainly the state, local authorities and hospitals. The contract foresees all public technical services to use a simple order form for Satcom equipment and services anywhere on French territory. Airbus Defence and Space's users of fixed or mobile (vehicle, trailer, or shelter) Satcom stations include the Interior Ministry's General Directorate for Civil Security and the departmental Fire and Emergency Response Brigades, plus about forty French Departments.

### **Hughes Launches Fully Managed SD-WAN Solution for Distributed Organizations**

January 19, 2017 - Hughes Network Systems, LLC (Hughes) introduced the Hughes Managed SD-WAN, delivered as an end-to-end turnkey network. Hughes Managed SD-WAN joins the comprehensive range of HughesON™ networking services for highly distributed organizations, such as those in the retail, restaurant, financial services and government sectors. The Hughes Managed SD-WAN helps to overcome these challenges with significant benefits compared to traditional private networks, including cloud readiness, high performance, higher network and application availability, network flexibility and cost savings. It leverages innovative Hughes ActiveTechnologies™ to transform ordinary broadband connections into enterprise-grade high performance WANs, including support for demanding applications such as VoIP and video.

### **Boeing Delivers ABS-2A into Full Operation**

January 23, 2017 - Boeing has delivered ABS-2A, an all-electric propulsion 702 satellite, to ABS which entered into commercial service on January 21st. This is the second of the pair of all-electric satellite Boeing has delivered to ABS. ABS-2A was launched in June 2016 aboard SpaceX Falcon 9 and will provide enhanced satellite communications services, including direct-to-home television services. Equipped with 48 Ku-band transponders, the satellite will serve ABS' customers in Africa, the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), Russia, South Asia and South East Asia regions at 74.725 degrees east.

### **MoU to Combine Indosat Products and Services with Thuraya Satellite Services**

January 23, 2017 - Thuraya Telecommunications Company and Indosat Ooredoo, a leading mobile operator in Indonesia, signed a MOU to develop a new range of services by combining Indosat products with Thuraya Satellite technology and devices for business customers in Indonesia. The agreement has created a framework for collaboration in three main areas. New services will be developed using Indosat SIM cards roaming on the Thuraya network as well as bundling satellite devices with Indosat Ooredoo digital applications. At a later stage, Thuraya and Indosat also plan to develop additional use cases for the burgeoning IoT market. The satellite-powered business applications allow organizations to extend their services beyond terrestrial networks, whenever they have remote connectivity requirements across various extreme environmental conditions. Indosat has identified an extensive range of specific sector opportunities for Thuraya land, data and maritime services. The full scope of markets set for transformational communications capabilities across Indonesia includes oil and gas, and mining; plantations; high end yachting, merchants and fishing; military and police services.

### **MOTIV Selects iDirect to Offer 4G/LTE Service over Satellite in Rural Russia**

January 23, 2017 - VT iDirect, Inc. (iDirect) announced that MOTIV, a leading mobile service provider, will be extending its investment in the iDirect platform to deliver 4G/LTE data service across Russia's expansive rural markets, offering profitable data coverage in cost-sensitive markets. MOTIV is based in Yekaterinburg, Russia's fourth largest city, and currently uses iDirect satellite network infrastructure as a GSM-backhaul solution to provide 2G coverage to nearly 100 remote locations spread over thousands of kilometers. The service expansion will leverage the iDirect SatHaul<sup>®</sup> solution, the newly launched X7-EC remote and iDirect's Layer 2 over Satellite (L2oS) technology. With a 20% gain in efficiency due to the use of iDirect SatHaul for their data overlay network, the new iDirect-based network will provide coverage as an overlay to MOTIV's 2G satellite-connected sites, enabling to deliver high-speed, reliable data service in areas that cannot be reached by traditional terrestrial or microwave backhaul.

### **Phasor Teams up with Thales Alenia Space for the Development of Advanced Broadband Smart Terminal**

January 24, 2017 - Phasor and Thales Alenia Space (TAS) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the development of a software-defined, smart terminal for commercial Ka satellite communications. The companies will join forces to leverage Phasor's unique knowledge in the field of electronically steerable antennas (ESAs), and Thales Alenia Space's extensive experience in satellite broadband technology across Geostationary, Medium and Low Earth Orbits (GEO, MEO and LEO).

### **Globecomm Delivers 'Use What You Need' VSAT Plans for Improved Service Flexibility and Cost Control**

January 24, 2017 - Globecomm Maritime, one of the leading providers of global connectivity services, is bringing increased efficiency and flexibility to the maritime communications market with the launch of metered VSAT plans. The plans include a range of data bundles, two Voice over IP (VoIP) lines, a Nimbus Smartbox and the option for Over-The-Top (OTT) provisioning of additional services. In addition to a typical 5GB core bundle for the ship's main business, the crew can access a separate bundle over a dedicated LAN or use the VSAT service on a pay as you go basis. Because the data that each user group consumes is visible separately, management can keep costs and accounting separate for these groups and identify costs for additional services with split billing and exact allocation.

### **Av-Comm Awarded Multi-antenna Contract to Upgrade Australian Bureau of Meteorology's Earth Station**

January 24, 2017 - Australia based satellite communications infrastructure and services provider Av-Comm has been awarded a multi-antenna contract by the Bureau of Meteorology to refurbish and upgrade four 3.7m earth station satellite antennas at their Crib Point facility in regional Victoria, Australia. The contract includes refurbishment of the existing 3.7m parabolic antennas and feedhorns, and the installation of solid state antenna controls and satellite tracking equipment. Once upgraded, the 3.7m antennas will form part of a network of antennas used to range the Chinese operated Feng Yun constellation of weather satellites orbiting in

geostationary orbit. The ranging conducted at the Crib Point facility is used to pinpoint the location in three dimensions in real time providing critical information to the constellation's TT&C.

#### **NorthTelecom Signed an Agreement with Philippine Public Telecommunications**

January 25, 2017 - NorthTelecom, a leading global satellite service provider, has entered into an agreement with a Philippine-based Public Telecommunications Entity (PTE) to supply satellite ground hardware, space segment capacity, and Internet bandwidth for the Philippine rural market, especially the unserved and underserved areas. The capacity requirement for the 3-year project is estimated to be around 1.5 to 2 transponders and the number of remote terminals is expected to reach 1,000 units by the end of the period. The primary objective of the project is to connect the rural market segments without Internet access, including the Local Government Units (LGUs), academe, business establishments and general public. NorthTelecom will use the latest technology from its vendor-partner for the ground equipment and its teleport in Singapore and Malaysia to serve the Philippine market. For large-scale Virtual Private Network (VPN) requirements of the public and private sectors, the provisioning of a Hub is seriously under consideration.

#### **Intelsat Epic<sup>NG</sup> Coverage Extended to Millions of Additional End Users as Intelsat 33e Begins Service**

January 30, 2017 - Intelsat announced that Intelsat 33e, the second of the Intelsat Epic<sup>NG</sup> high throughput satellites (HTS), successfully completed all in-orbit testing and entered service on 29 January 2017. Manufactured by Boeing and launched in August 2016, Intelsat 33e is equipped with the most advanced digital payload on a commercial spacecraft. With this exceptionally flexible HTS payload design, Intelsat 33e, operating from 60° East, will extend Intelsat's HTS services in C-, Ku- and Ka-band to Europe, the Middle East, Africa, Asia Pacific, Mediterranean and Indian Ocean regions. This will enable the delivery of enterprise-grade, broadband services to fixed and mobile network operators, aeronautical and maritime mobility service providers and government customers. Intelsat 33e's powerful spot beams will also enable the distribution of regionalized content for media customers operating in the region.

#### **SES and Satcom Global Sign an Agreement for Global Ku-band Network**

January 31, 2017 - A leading provider of global satellite communications services to the maritime and land sectors Satcom Global will become a key partner for SES. The differentiated mobility solution will form a crucial part of Satcom Global's new Ku-band VSAT service, Aura, providing seamless, reliable and high-speed connectivity to hundreds of maritime, offshore and land customers. The agreement provides Satcom Global with seamless access to SES's satellite fleet and upcoming next generation hybrid satellites with high throughput payloads. SES will also provide a robust ground network infrastructure, enabling multi-satellite access and service integration solutions. SES will provide Satcom Global with an open and scalable VSAT platform that allows flexibility to deliver customizable, always-on broadband connectivity. SES delivers high-value performance with minimal initial investment cost and enables Satcom Global to scale-up service for customers without delay.

#### **Intelsat and Quantis Sign Agreement to Improve Broadband Services in Europe and Africa**

January 31, 2017 - Quantis Global signed an agreement to enhance and expand the Quantis network using services provided by Intelsat Epic<sup>NG</sup> high-throughput satellites (HTS) and IntelsatOne Flex services, bringing higher performing broadband services across the region. Quantis, part of Eutelsat Wireless Telecom SA, will incorporate services from two Intelsat Epic<sup>NG</sup> satellites, Intelsat 33e and Intelsat 37e, and use Intelsat's managed services offering, IntelsatOne Flex for Enterprise, which delivers high-quality, global, enterprise-grade, wholesale Mbps service. The network leverages Intelsat teleports and will serve NGOs, enterprise, embassies, the oil & gas sector, and maritime customers in Europe, the Middle East and Africa.

## BROADCASTING

#### **Eutelsat Scales up Ultra HD Content with Two New Channels at the Popular HOTBIRD Neighbourhood**

January 4, 2017 - Eutelsat Communications announced the launch of two new Ultra HD channels at its popular HOTBIRD video neighbourhood. Fashion TV's new Ultra HD channel, FTV UHD and Travelxp 4K, the world's first 4K travel channel, have concluded multi-year contracts with Eutelsat to leverage HOTBIRD's market-leading penetration into cable and IPTV networks across Europe, the Middle East and North Africa. FTV UHD made its debut on HOTBIRD on 23 December 2016 while Travelxp 4K starts broadcasting from January, 2017. Both channels have selected HEVC encoding with 10bits of color depth (one billion colors), at 50 frames per second.

### **All Rai Channels Available in HD in Tivùsat Platform**

January 5, 2017 - Viewers in Italy of the Tivùsat TV platform that broadcasts exclusively from Eutelsat's HOTBIRD neighbourhood can now benefit from HD quality of the full line-up of TV channels produced by Italian public broadcaster Rai. Rai YoYo, Rai School, Rai Gulp, Rai Storia and Rai News24 were the last of 13 Rai channels to transition to HD. The operation was completed this week with the collaboration of Rai Way that operates the signal transmission and broadcasting network for Italy's national public broadcaster. Tivùsat was set up to ensure that everyone in Italy has access to free digital TV. By reaching all areas of Italian territory, viewers can access all national DTT channels and a diverse line up of national and international channels. Tivùsat's full line-up now comprises over 100 channels, of which 24 in HD and 80 in Standard Digital, plus 33 radio stations. A total of 2.9 million Tivùsat smartcards have been activated.

### **Al Rafidain Channel Now on Es'hail-1**

January 9, 2017 - Es'hailSat, the Qatar Satellite Company, announced that Al Rafidain TV channel is now available on Es'hail-1 satellite located at the 25.5 degrees East hotspot covering Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. Al Rafidain is an Iraqi satellite TV channel which showcases Iraqi political, economic, cultural and social identity. With the goal to advocate unity among Iraqis, the channel broadcasts programs that reject intolerance, fights sectarianism and racism, while highlighting the history and tradition of the Iraqi civilization. The channel further adds to the attractive line up of niche Arabic TV content currently broadcasting via Es'hail-1. Tune in to Es'hail-1 at 25.5 degrees East, with 11141 MHz, V Pol, and FEC 3/4 to enjoy high quality, free to air, Arabic content on Al Rafidiain.

### **New Verimatrix Bulk Decryption Capabilities from WISI**

January 12, 2017 - German system provider in the product areas of CATV technology, receiving and distribution technology, mobile communication and high-frequency assemblies WISI announced new features that enable video operators using Verimatrix scrambling to securely deliver video across their network, decode entire channel line-ups at the network edge and convert them to a variety of IP or legacy RF video formats. This flexible product enables operators to conveniently and affordably pursue opportunities in hospitality, MDU, school campus, nursing home, hospital, and wholesale applications. Video operators can deploy the flexible and modular Tangram chassis and cards to receive and decrypt up to 128 unique 4K, HD or SD Verimatrix scrambled video services and then output them as any combination of IP, ASI, digital QAM or modulated analog CATV.

### **GlobeCast Teams up with Turksat to Launch TRT World**

January 16, 2017 - Turksat has signed a new multi-year agreement with GlobeCast to launch TRT World on 10 additional satellites. With this agreement, TRT World will strengthen its position across the globe. As a result, TRT World will be able to be viewed all over the world in new territories (190 countries in total) via Turksat and the 10 satellites, operating across Europe, Middle East, Asia Pacific, Africa, Australia and America. The expanded reach has already begun and will be completed in the coming months.

### **SES: MX1 Wins Contract Extension with Leading Content Distribution Company Beta Film**

January 17, 2017 - SES S.A. announced that Beta Film Ltd., one of the leading international operating distributors of television, home video and new media content, has extended its existing service contract with MX1, a wholly-owned subsidiary of SES. This new long-term contract extends and expands the existing agreement, which began in 2009, and covers a wide range of services, including content, picture, data and meta-data management. Beta Film uses the innovative MX1 360 platform which bundles all MX1 media services and allows customers to manage and distribute content on a single, hybrid cloud-based platform.

### **MX1 Guarantees the Continuity of Sky's Broadcasting Operations**

January 19, 2017 - SES S.A. announced that Sky Deutschland has signed a multi-year contract extension for back-up services with MX1, a wholly-owned subsidiary of SES. The contract ensures that, in case of any technical issues with Sky Deutschland's main signal, the broadcaster's programming will be restored in a short time-frame, from the MX1 Broadcasting Centre in Unterfoehring, Germany. The agreement includes playout and turnaround services, such as encoding, multiplexing and encryption, and uplink services. To support these services, the MX1 Broadcast Centre will concurrently receive all necessary data and video transmission material from the Sky channels.

### **CCTV Launches Three Flagship HD Channels from Eutelsat HOTBIRD Video Neighbourhood**

January 23, 2017 - China Central Television (CCTV) has signed a long-term distribution contract with Eutelsat Communications to broadcast three of its flagship channels in High Definition across Europe, the Middle East and

North Africa. CCTV-4 HD, CGTN HD (formerly CCTV News) and CGTN-Documentary HD (formerly CCTV Documentary) are now available in High Definition in Chinese and English from the high-power HOTBIRD satellites. The channels broadcast free-to-air and complement Standard Digital versions already available from the region's leading broadcasting neighbourhood. Eutelsat started broadcasting CCTV channels in 2008 and currently broadcasts on seven Eutelsat satellites serving Europe, Africa and the Middle East. China Global Television Network, or CGTN, is China's new international media organization, launched by CCTV in December 2016.

#### **Mega-Choice Launches News and Entertainment Focused TV Platform in Ghana with Eutelsat**

January 25, 2017 - Mega-Choice Digital Network, an associate company of Crystal TV, Ghana's first private television network, announced the launch of its new Direct-to-Home TV service in Ghana. A ten-year contract has been inked with Eutelsat Communications for capacity connected to the African service area of the EUTELSAT 16A satellite to support the launch of Mega-Choice that will feature well-known national and international channel brands. Mega-Choice is focusing marketing of its new package to viewers in Ghana and will leverage the high power, premium coverage and popularity of EUTELSAT 16A to extend to other West African markets in a second phase. The new platform begins with a varied mix of free-to-air and pay channels and a strong accent on news and entertainment.

#### **Persian-Language Manoto TV Completes Switch to Eutelsat Satellites**

January 30, 2017 - Manoto TV, the popular Persian-language channel, has completed its switch in SD and HD versions to the EUTELSAT 7B satellite operated by Eutelsat Communications. The channel is now available exclusively from Eutelsat's HOTBIRD satellites and EUTELSAT 7B that together form a single neighbourhood for Persian-speaking viewers in Europe, the Middle East and Iran. Broadcasting documentaries, films, series, original entertainment and news, the London-based free-to-air channel owned by Marjan Television Network has rapidly gained market share since its launch on HOTBIRD in 2010.

#### **DISH Acquires DBS and OTT Assets from EchoStar**

January 31, 2017 - DISH Network Corporation and EchoStar Corporation have executed an agreement that will transfer certain EchoStar assets and operations, including its EchoStar Technologies hardware and software development group, its national and regional uplink business, its managed fiber backhaul network serving all U.S. DMAs and its OTT development group to DISH in exchange for DISH's 80 percent economic interest in Hughes Retail Group held in the form of a tracking stock. This transaction also transfers to DISH the 10 percent stake in Sling TV held by EchoStar, wireless spectrum licenses covering four markets in the 28 GHz band and certain real estate properties. DISH will continue to market satellite broadband under the brand dishNET to rural customers.

## LAUNCH / SPACE

#### **Arianespace to Launch JCSAT-17 for SKY Perfect JSAT**

January 4, 2017 - Arianespace announced a launch service contract with SKY Perfect JSAT for JCSAT-17. It will be launched by an Ariane 5 from the Guiana Space Center, French Guiana, in 2019. Since the launch of JCSAT-1 in 1989, SKY Perfect JSAT Corporation and Arianespace have developed a strong relationship of mutual trust. This new satellite is the 31st Japanese satellite launch contract awarded to Arianespace. Built by Lockheed Martin based on the A2100 platform, JCSAT-17's main coverage zone will be Eastern Asia, including Japan.

#### **Intelsat 39 to be Launched on Ariane 5**

January 4, 2017 - Arianespace will launch Intelsat 39 for Intelsat. Intelsat 39 will provide broadband networking and video distribution services in Africa, Europe, the Middle East, and Asia, as well as broadband connectivity for mobile users in the Indian Ocean region. It will replace the Intelsat 902 satellite, which was launched by Arianespace in 2001. Intelsat 39 will have both C-band and Ku-band transponders and will be located at the 62° East longitude position. Of note, Intelsat 39 was selected by the government of Myanmar to support the rollout of cellular networks beyond urban centers, essential to achieving a digitally inclusive society. Intelsat 39 is based on the SSL 1300 platform. Arianespace will launch Intelsat 39 aboard an Ariane 5 from the Guiana Space Center, Europe's Spaceport in Kourou, French Guiana, in the second half of 2018.

#### **SSL to Provide Spacecraft for NASA Asteroid Exploration Mission**

January 5, 2017 - Space Systems Loral (SSL) will provide a spacecraft platform for a NASA Discovery Mission to explore the metallic asteroid 16 Psyche. SSL will work for NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) to support

Principal Investigator Dr. Lindy Elkins-Tanton, director of Arizona State University's (ASU) School of Earth and Space Exploration, in a mission to research the 210 km diameter asteroid, which is believed to be the only place in the solar system where a metal planetary core can be studied. As the industrial partner, SSL will provide the "power-propulsion chassis," a highly capable composite structure spacecraft platform equipped with high-power solar electric propulsion (SEP) system. The NASA Discovery Program goal is to deepen the knowledge of our solar system by launching modest cost-capped missions on a routine cadence. Scheduled to launch in the 2020s, the Psyche mission was selected for flight out of five Discovery Mission candidates.

### **Lockheed Martin to Build NASA's Lucy Spacecraft, a Mission to Trojan Asteroids**

January 5, 2017 - Lockheed Martin has been selected to design, build and operate the spacecraft for NASA's Lucy mission. One of NASA's two new Discovery Program missions, Lucy will perform the first reconnaissance of the Jupiter Trojan asteroids orbiting the sun in tandem with the gas giant. The Lucy spacecraft will launch in 2021 to study six of these exciting worlds. The mission is led by Principal Investigator Dr. Harold Levison of the Southwest Research Institute in Boulder, Colorado. NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland will manage the mission. The program has a development cost cap of about \$450 million. Lucy will study the geology, surface composition and bulk physical properties of these bodies at close range. It's slated to arrive at its first destination, a main belt asteroid, in 2025. From 2027 to 2033, Lucy will explore six Jupiter Trojan asteroids. These asteroids are trapped by Jupiter's gravity in two swarms that share the planet's orbit, one leading and one trailing Jupiter in its 12-year circuit around the sun. The Trojans are thought to be relics of a much earlier era in the history of the solar system, and may have formed far beyond Jupiter's current orbit.

### **AURAK and UAE Space Agency Sign Partnership Agreement**

January 8, 2017 - The American University of Ras Al Khaimah (AURAK) has signed a partnership agreement with the UAE Space Agency in the federal institution's head office in Abu Dhabi. The Memorandum of Understanding caters for research-based cooperation and knowledge-sharing between the two parties, with the intention of supporting the space sector through collaboration in space science, education, research, technology and applications. It is envisioned that the agency's satellite program will be utilized to observe impacts of various environmental phenomena occurring in the UAE. The agreement is particularly relevant to AURAK whose School of Engineering consists of a total of ten undergraduate programs and a master's program. The university's programs in computer science and electronics and communications engineering programs both received ABET accreditation in July 2016.

### **GMV Invests in PLD Space**

January 9, 2017 - Spanish ground systems provider GMV has decided to back the project of PLD Space and take a stake in this young space company. GMV will also develop key technology and work jointly with PLD Space in the development of the launchers ARION 1 and ARION 2, boosting the growth of both firms and winning them pole position in the market of small space launchers. GMV's corporate backing of PLD Space has freed up a total investment of 6.7 million euros. Under this agreement, GMV, a benchmark firm in the world's space sector, will be inputting its 30+-year experience and expertise in the sector to develop the complete avionics of ARION 1 and ARION 2, including guidance, navigation and control (GNC), telemetry and onboard software of both launchers. GMV's team will also be participating jointly with PLD Space in ARION 1 and ARION 2's integration, qualification and launching-support operations, all during the phase of trial flights and commercial flights. These operations are scheduled to start in late 2018 with the maiden flight of the suborbital launcher ARION 1 from the "El Arenosillo" launch base in Huelva. ARION 1 will have two purposes that are crucial for the success of this business initiative. At a commercial level, this rocket will serve as an economical and reusable space access vehicle, for technological development and scientific experimentation in space conditions. At a technological level ARION 1 will be the technological demonstrator and forerunner of a much bigger and more ambitious vehicle, ARION 2, whose mission will be to place satellites of up to 150 kg in space orbit.

### **China Launches Commercial Rocket Mission Kuaizhou-1A**

January 9, 2017 - The rocket Kuaizhou-1A (KZ-1A) has sent three satellites into space in its first commercial mission. The rocket, carrying the satellite JL-1 and two CubeSats XY-S1 and Caton-1, blasted off from northwestern China's Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center. The KZ-1A was developed from the Kuaizhou-1 rocket with improvements in adaptability. It is a low-cost solid-fuelled carrier rocket with high reliability and short preparation period and was designed to launch low-orbit satellites weighing under 300 kg. The JL-1 is a multifunctional remote-sensing satellite providing high-definition video images which are expected to be used for land resource and forestry surveying, environmental protection, transport and disaster prevention and relief purposes. The XY-S1 and Caton-1 are experimental satellites to test technologies of low-orbit narrow-band

communication and VHF Data Exchange System (VDES) respectively. A rocket technology company under the China Aerospace Science and Industry Corporation was responsible for the launch mission.

### **Airbus Launches “Enter the SpaceDataHighway” Challenge**

January 12, 2017 - Transmitting large volumes of data in near real time through space at a rate of 1.8 gigabytes per second based on laser technology since November 23rd, the “SpaceDataHighway” is one of the most ambitious and forward-looking communication systems in operation today. To foster further innovation and enlarge the application portfolio, Airbus is issuing a call for ideas for the “Enter the SpaceDataHighway” challenge. This challenge is open to SMEs, start-ups, entrepreneurs and students who would like to embark on this adventure with their business ideas for the utilization of the “SpaceDataHighway”. The SpaceDataHighway is a unique space communication system combining ultra-broadband laser communications in geostationary orbit to deliver a unique, secure, near real time data transfer service - making data latency a thing of the past. It can help revolutionize a number of areas, including the handling of humanitarian crises, maritime security and environmental protection by receiving satellite imagery in near real time. The Sentinel satellites of the European Union’s Earth observation program Copernicus will be the first to benefit from these next-generation services. However, the SpaceDataHighway will also be able to connect other platforms such as aircraft, UAVs or the International Space Station.

### **Iridium Announces Successful First Launch of Iridium NEXT Satellites**

January 14, 2017 - Iridium Communications Inc. announced the successful launch of its first ten Iridium NEXT satellites. The satellites were delivered into low-Earth orbit approximately one hour after the SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket lifted off from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California. Iridium NEXT is the company’s next-generation satellite constellation, replacing and enhancing its existing network of low-Earth orbit satellites spanning the entire globe – the largest commercial satellite constellation in space. This is the start of a series of Iridium NEXT launches scheduled over the next 18 months, and marks the beginning of one of the biggest “tech refreshes” in history, completely replacing the only satellite constellation providing 100-percent truly global communications coverage. Once fully deployed, Iridium NEXT will enable a new broadband multi-service capability called Iridium Certus<sup>SM</sup>, while providing the technical flexibility to support innovative new services and technologies from Iridium’s extensive partner network. Among those technologies is a unique hosted payload from Iridium’s partner Aireon, which will provide a real-time global aircraft surveillance service, extending aircraft visibility across the planet.

### **exactEarth Announces Successful Initial Launch for its Second Generation Real-time Constellation**

January 16, 2017 - exactEarth Ltd., the leading provider of Satellite AIS data services, announced the successful launch of four hosted payloads for its next generation constellation, exactView<sup>TM</sup> RT powered by Harris. Launched aboard an Iridium NEXT satellite on SpaceX’s Falcon 9 rocket from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California, these hosted maritime payloads are now being commissioned and are expected to be brought into service within the next four months. The exactView RT system is the result of the agreement signed with Harris Corporation in June 2015 under which Harris deploys and operates the hosted payloads and exactEarth performs the ground-based data processing and has exclusive distribution rights for the data for all markets except the US Government. exactView RT will offer for the first time a continuous, global real-time ship tracking capability, providing an unprecedented view of the world’s maritime domain to exactEarth customers. Designed to provide significant improvements to current and future customers, the RT satellites will deliver best-in-class vessel detection rates as well as instantaneous downlinking of AIS information. This will enable average global revisit rates of under one minute with the Company’s customers receiving data in real time. exactView RT will consist of more than 60 payloads (including in-orbit spares) aboard the Iridium NEXT constellation, which is scheduled for completion in 2018.

### **NTU Singapore Successfully Launches its 7th Satellite into Space**

January 17, 2017 - Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (NTU Singapore) has successfully launched its 7th satellite into space from the International Space Station (ISS) on 16 January. Named the AOBA VELOX-III, it is the first Singapore satellite to be launched from the ISS, a 110-metre habitable human-made satellite that orbits the Earth. NTU’s satellite was delivered to the ISS last month by Japan’s national aerospace agency, the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), on a resupply rocket from the Yoshinobu Launch Complex at Tanegashima Space Center, Japan. Unlike the conventional way of launching a satellite directly into space from a rocket, the two-kilogram VELOX-III was shot into orbit around earth using a special launcher by a Japanese astronaut at the ISS. The AOBA VELOX-III is a joint project between NTU and Japan’s Kyushu Institute of Technology (Kyutech), one of Japan’s leading universities for satellite research and engineering.

### **Successful Launch of the Hispasat 36W-1 Satellite**

January 30, 2017 - Hispasat successfully launched its tenth satellite, the Hispasat 36W-1 (H36W-1), from the European Spaceport of Kourou in French Guiana, aboard Arianespace's Soyuz launch vehicle. Approximately 32 minutes after the rocket took off, the H36W-1 satellite separated from the launch vehicle, at which point the solar panels were started up and deployed. The new satellite will provide coverage for South America and Europe, including the Canary Islands. It has a 15-year lifespan and will offer video contribution and cellular backhaul services, as well as company and broadband solutions. The H36W-1 satellite was built by the German company OHB System AG and is the first mission of the SmallGEO platform, developed by the German manufacturer together with the European Space Agency and Hispasat. This platform allows for a substantial reduction in satellite mass thanks to the use of electric propulsion throughout the lifespan of the satellite. It is fitted with 20 transponders on the Ku band and additional capacity of up to 3 transponders on the Ka band, and has a launch mass of 3,200 kg.

### **PacSci EMC and Partner, Pyroalliance, Win Contract for Space Satellite Constellation Project**

January 30, 2017 - PacSci EMC and Pyroalliance, a subsidiary of Airbus Safran Launchers have been selected by RUAG Space AB to provide the Payload Release and Sequencing System (PRSS), a critical component to release satellites into space for a satellite constellation project. RUAG is the prime contractor for the payload dispenser systems that will house and deploy 32 small satellites per launch vehicle. The PRSS will release the satellites from the dispenser into space. PacSci EMC was chosen to design, develop, test and manufacture the PRSS because of its long-standing reputation for precision and proven ability to customize highly complex systems.

### **Iridium Adds Eighth Launch with SpaceX for Satellite Rideshare with NASA/GFZ**

January 31, 2017 - Iridium Communications Inc. has contracted with SpaceX for an eighth Falcon 9 launch. Along for the ride are the twin-satellites of the NASA/GFZ Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment Follow-On (GRACE-FO) mission, which will be deployed into a separate low-Earth orbit, marking the first rideshare deal for Iridium. An agreement of this kind is economical for all parties, and affords Iridium the ability to launch five additional satellites for its next-generation global satellite network. The rideshare is anticipated to launch out of Vandenberg Air Force Base in California by early 2018.

## **EXECUTIVE MOVES**

### **Allot Communications Names Erez Antebi as President & CEO**

January 3, 2017 - Allot Communications Ltd., a leading provider of security and monetization solutions that enable service providers and enterprises to protect and personalize the digital experience, announced that Erez Antebi has been appointed to the position of President and Chief Executive Officer. He will be replacing Andrei Elefant on February 1st. At the request of the Company's Board of Directors Elefant has agreed to assist Antebi during a transition period and thereafter, to continue to serve the Company in the position of Chief Strategy Officer. Prior to joining Allot, Antebi served as CEO of Gilat Satellite Networks, a leading satellite communications technology and services company between 2012 and 2015 and since 2005 held a number of other senior positions within the Gilat group, namely CEO of Gilat Network Systems and CEO of Spacenet Rural.

### **Albert Cerro Named General Manager of Thales Alenia Space's Toulouse Plant**

January 17, 2017 - Albert Cerro has been named General Manager of the Thales Alenia Space plant in Toulouse. He replaces Jean Pierre Vialaneix, who is moving to another position in the company. A 1980 graduate of the ENSEEIHT engineering school, Albert Cerro joined Thomson-CSF in 1981, working for the Space Division in Meudon La Forêt near Paris. He would subsequently move to a development engineering position, then the manufacture of RF equipment for several programs at this company, which became Alcatel Espace in Toulouse. He then held several operational and managerial positions in the Production Division of Alcatel Espace, and was named director of the microwave product line at Alcatel Alenia Space, which became Thales Alenia Space. In 2015, Albert Cerro was named Director of RF programs and altimetry in the Observation & Science France division, a position he retains in conjunction with his new responsibilities as Plant General Manager.

### **SpeedCast Names David Kagan as Chief Operating Officer**

January 24, 2017 - SpeedCast International Limited, a leading global satellite communications and network service provider, announced the appointment of David Kagan to the position of Chief Operating Officer (COO)

reporting to Chief Executive Officer Pierre-Jean Beylier. Kagan comes to SpeedCast from Globalstar, where he served as President and COO. Uniquely qualified as a result of his extensive industry experience, Kagan previously held C-level executive positions at ITC Global, Globe Wireless, Maritime Telecommunications Network (MTN), ICG Satellite Services and Norwegian Cruise Line Ltd. As Group COO, Houston-based Kagan will assume global responsibility for supply chain, capacity management, quality, health and safety, network operations, field engineering, customer support and service implementation. Kagan is expected to start in March 2017, and joins during a key period as integration activities with Harris CapRock accelerate following the completion of the acquisition on January 1, 2017.

#### **NorthTelecom Appoints John Brophy as Chief Financial Officer**

January 31, 2017 - Leading Satellite Service Provider NorthTelecom has announced the appointment of John Brophy as Group Chief Financial Officer (CFO). John comes to NorthTelecom from strong background in finance and accounting which will be of a great value to the Company as NorthTelecom group continues to grow. Originally studied economics at the London School of Economics before working in the City of London for 10 years with Bank of America and Unibank, he has a long standing business consultancy relationship with Manchester Business School, UK and has worked with other business schools in the UK and abroad.

## REPORTS

#### **WTA Publishes New Research Report: Reducing the Energy Load**

January 6, 2017 - The World Teleport Association (WTA) released Reducing the Energy Load, a new research report on the design, engineering and technology strategies that teleport operators are taking to reduce their energy consumption and which approaches are delivering the biggest impact for the money invested. Teleports have become data centers offering the world's best options for connectivity. Data center equipment is steadily increasing in power and capacity while shrinking in size, resulting in higher expenditures on electricity and cooling, which need to be controlled for the sake of the bottom line as well as to meet increasingly strict environmental policies. As technology expansion creates the problem, so technology innovation is offering new ways to reduce energy consumption.

#### **NSR Forecasts High Altitude Platforms (HAPs) as \$2 Billion Opportunity**

January 10, 2017 - NSR's High-Altitude Platforms (HAPs) report highlights opportunities for growth via current and new airships, balloons, and pseudo-satellites will reach over \$2B in cumulative revenue over the next decade. NSR's industry-first HAPS report forecasts a 44% increase in HAPs units and an 85% increase in associated revenue over the coming ten years. Diverse applications such as communications, remote sensing, surveillance, navigation, scientific research, and technology testing, as well as new apps, such as adventure tourism, will emerge as key HAPs market drivers.

#### **Two Paths to Satellite Broadband Growth**

January 31, 2017 - NSR's VSAT and Broadband Satellite Markets, 15th Edition report forecasts over 75% of cumulative capacity revenues in the 2015-2025 timeframe for fixed VSAT applications to come from consumer oriented offers, either directly or through partnerships with cellular and telecom operators. What then are the conditions for each model to thrive? The new wave of competitively priced capacity is opening a vast opportunity for satcom to serve mass consumer markets. However, to reach these mass markets, the right business models need to be developed. Adapting the product to each market segment is essential, and this means putting a great emphasis on sales channels, partners and product architecture.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Convergence India 2017**, February 8-11, 2017, New Delhi, India

25th Convergence India 2017 expo, Convergence India is South Asia's biggest & most influential trade event for the Telecom, IT, broadcast & digital media industry. Now in its 25th edition, Convergence India 2017 expo will be held during 8-10 February 2017 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. For more information, please visit: <http://www.convergenceindia.org/>

**MilSatCom Middle East 2017**, February 21-22, 2017, Abu Dhabi, UAE, <http://milsatcom.me/>

**Global Space & Technology Convention 2017**, February 22-24, 2017, Singapore, <http://space.org.sg/index.php/gstc>

**SATmob: Government & Commercial Satellite Mobility Forum**, February 22, 2017, Singapore, <http://www.talksatellite.com/satmob2.htm>

**Satellite 2017**, March 6-9, 2017, Washington DC, USA, [www.satshow.com](http://www.satshow.com)

**ABU Digital Broadcasting Symposium 2017**, March 6-9, 2017, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, [www.abu.org.my](http://www.abu.org.my)

**Telecoms World Asia 2017**, March 21-22, 2017, Bangkok, Thailand, [www.terraviva.com/conference/telecoms-world-asia/](http://www.terraviva.com/conference/telecoms-world-asia/)

**CABSAT 2017**, March 21-23, 2017, Dubai, UAE, [www.cabsat.com](http://www.cabsat.com)

CABSAT is the leading professional content entertainment event in the MEASA region. An exciting, interactive event featuring all the major global technology and content service providers for this growing industry, CABSAT continues to extend its global and regional reach. The show is the dominant broadcast, digital media and satellite communications technology platform for anyone wishing to target broadcasters, production houses and studios, animation houses, content owners and creators, software developers, telcos, systems integrators and distribution channels in the MEASA region.

DRIVING THE "TRANSFORMATIVE" MENA ENTERTAINMENT MEDIA MARKET- CABSAT: 21-23 March 2017  
Dubai World Trade Center

**33<sup>rd</sup> Space Symposium**, April 3-6, 2017, Colorado Springs, USA, [www.spacesymposium.org](http://www.spacesymposium.org)

**MilSatCom Asia Pacific 2017**, May 15-16, 2017, Singapore, [www.milsatcomasia.com](http://www.milsatcomasia.com)

As space is becoming more congested, contested and competitive, it is critical to look at how SatCom is utilized to gain the upper hand in the frontier that is crucial for future combat. By bringing you latest updates from regional experts such as The Republic of Korea Armed Forces, US Air Force, Indian Armed Forces, Indonesian MoD, New Zealand Defence Force and Canada Maritime Forces Pacific Headquarters among others, as well as key industry vendors such as Hughes Network Systems, this year's conference will equip you with the tools to enhance your SatCom capabilities for effective military communications.

**VIETNAM ICT COMM 2017**, June 7-9, 2017, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, [www.ictcomm.vn](http://www.ictcomm.vn)

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*News, comments, and suggestions can be sent to the editor at:*

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## About APSCC

APSCC is a non-profit, international organization representing all sectors of satellite and space-related industries. The aim of the organization is to exchange views and ideas on satellite technologies, systems, policies and outer space activities in general along with satellite communications including broadcasting for the betterment of the Asia-Pacific region. Conferences, forums, workshops, and exhibitions are organized through regional coordination with its members in order to promote new services and businesses via satellite as well as outer space activities. APSCC membership is open to any government body, public or private organization, association, or corporation that is involved in satellite services, risk management or associate fields such as data-casting, informatics, multi-media, telecommunications and other outer-space related activities with interests in the Asia-Pacific region. More information is available at [www.apscc.or.kr](http://www.apscc.or.kr).