APSCC Monthly e-Newsletter
February 2024

The Asia-Pacific Satellite Communications Council (APSCC) e-Newsletter is produced on a monthly basis as part of APSCC's information services for members and professionals in the satellite industry. Subscribe to the APSCC monthly newsletter and be updated with the latest satellite industry news as well as APSCC activities! To renew your subscription, please visit www.apscc.or.kr. To unsubscribe, send an email to info@apscc.or.kr with a title "Unsubscribe."

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

INSIDE APSCC

APSCC 2024 Satellite Conference & Exhibition (APSCC 2024), November 5-7, Bangkok
APSCC Satellite Conference and Exhibition, the largest three-day annual gathering of the Asia Pacific satellite and space community, is your defining platform that brings the industry together for market insight, striking partnerships and concluding business deals. This year the APSCC 2024 Satellite Conference and Exhibition will be heading to Bangkok, Thailand. Regarding sponsorship, exhibition and speaking opportunity, please contact the APSCC 2024 team at apscc2024@apscc.or.kr

SATELLITE BUSINESS

SKY Perfect JSAT and JAXA Startup Tenchijin Conclude Investment Agreement Accelerating Expansion of Satellite Data Business
January 31, 2024 – SKY Perfect JSAT Corporation announced that it has entered into an investment agreement with Tenchijin, Inc., a Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) startup, during the Series A 1st close. Through this capital participation, the companies will also promote to strengthen business collaborations, aiming to further expand the satellite data business using space big data obtained from earth observation satellites and jointly develop new business initiatives. The utilization of imagery and data obtained from earth observation satellites is progressing significantly across diverse sectors, including infrastructure monitoring, environmental assessment, agriculture, and sustainable development goals. It has become a critically important factor in the decision-making process for the modern business environment and in addressing social challenges. Furthermore, with the increasing number of high-resolution observation satellites and the expanding availability of satellite data, there is heightened expectation for efficient analysis and visualization of such information. Through this investment, SKY Perfect JSAT and Tenchijin will synergize their resources and expertise, accelerating business collaborations toward the expansion and development of the satellite data business. Read more

Eutelsat Group and OmniAccess Announce Collaboration with Motorsport's Extreme E for Connectivity on Board its Supply Ship St. Helena
January 31, 2024 – Eutelsat Group has announced an agreement between Eutelsat OneWeb and breakthrough live action motorsport Extreme E to connect the St. Helena. This is a 6,767 gross ton ship which acts as transport facility and floating VIP hospitality club for Extreme E. The ship is used to transport the motor racing teams innovative Odyssey cars and all ancillary cargo. The ship is one of the first to have installed Kymeta Peregrine maritime user terminals and the installation, integration and support of the connectivity services are being managed and supported by OmniAccess. Eutelsat OneWeb's consistent high-speed, low latency connectivity will deliver significantly increased reliability and data-rates of up to 200 Mbps, enhancing life onboard for Extreme E's race crew, support teams and onboard scientists. Read more

Fukujin Kisen Selects Marlink to Equip its Owned Fleet with Smart Hybrid Network

January 31, 2024 – Marlink, the smart network and digital solutions company, has won the contract to deploy its smart hybrid network solutions on the owned fleet of leading Japanese shipowner Fukujin Kisen Co Ltd. Marlink already provides communications solutions to the Fukujin Kisen fleet and the increase of its commitment reflects Marlink's consistent delivery of innovative solutions to the company, helping to optimise vessel operations and support the company's business and crew welfare strategies. The new hybrid network solution combining Marlink VSAT and LEO L-band back-up includes the Starlink high throughput, low latency LEO internet solution. A trial Starlink installation was made on a Capesize bulk carrier, alongside high capacity VSAT and L-band back-up. Read more

SKY Perfect JSAT Announces Establishment of "Orbital Lasers Co., Ltd." Aiming for the World's First Commercial Use of Space-based Laser Technologies

January 30, 2024 – SKY Perfect JSAT Corporation announced the establishment of Orbital Lasers Co., Ltd. as of January 12, 2024. This milestone follows the announcement in June 2020 to design and develop the payload of the world's first satellite for space debris removal using laser technology, in collaboration with the Institute of Physical and Chemical Research (RIKEN). As a result of this progress, a startup was born from SKY Perfect JSAT. Orbital Lasers will not only engage in space debris removal but also aims to further utilize and develop its laser technologies. By incorporating space-based LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) technology into satellites, the company aspires to become the world's first commercial provider of high-precision ground surface information through the use of Satellite LiDAR. In connection with this Satellite LiDAR business, SKY Perfect JSAT and JAXA entered into a contract regarding the conceptual study of earth observation LiDAR satellites system and its future commercialization, on January 12, 2024. Orbital Lasers is scheduled to undertake this conceptual study under contract from SKY Perfect JSAT. Read more

Eutelsat Group Concludes Sale of OneWeb's Stake in Airbus OneWeb Satellites LLC (AOS)

January 29, 2024 – Eutelsat Group has completed the sale of OneWeb's 50% share in the Airbus OneWeb Satellites joint venture. The stake in the Florida-based business, which built the satellites for the OneWeb First Generation constellation, is being acquired by co-owner, Airbus U.S. Space & Defense, Inc. The agreement reflects Eutelsat Group's ongoing management of its assets with a view to optimizing and monetizing its portfolio as part of its debt reduction efforts. Read more

Korea's KASS Satellite Navigation System Certified by National Authorities and Enters Operational Service

January 29, 2024 – The Korea Augmentation Satellite System (KASS) developed by Thales Alenia Space as prime contractor has been officially certified by the Korean authorities. Now operational, this navigation system is the result of collaboration between Thales Alenia and the Korea Aerospace Research Institute (KARI) for the Korean Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport (MOLIT). Thales Alenia Space's contract with KARI calls for the delivery of ground infrastructure, which the company began rolling out in 2020. The KASS system is initially operating via the MEASAT-3d geostationary satellite, launched in 2022, and will soon be supplemented by KOREASAT 6A which is under development by Thales Alenia Space for KT SAT Corporation Ltd, the Republic of Korea's leading satellite communications operator. KOREASAT 6A will carry a satellite-based augmentation system (SBAS) payload designed also by Thales Alenia Space to improve service continuity and operational availability. Read more

Intellian and SES Expand O3b mPOWER Partnership with New Terminals

January 24, 2024 – Intellian Technologies Inc., a leading global provider of feature-rich, resilient satellite communications solutions has announced the addition of the ARC-M4-Block 1 and X150D to their SES O3b mPOWER terminal portfolio, following successful over- the-air testing with SES at their R&D Center in South Korea. For navy forces, the ARC-M4-Block 1 naval terminal, a 1.3m multi-band terminal, provides access to X-band, MIL Ka-band and 2.5GHz commercial Ka-band networks. Naval

customers can utilize simultaneous X-band and Ka-band transmit and receive when operating on a WGS satellite, giving unprecedented layers of resilient connectivity and throughput for mission critical operations. It's designed for operation on LEO, GEO, HEO, and MEO satellite orbits such as SES O3b mPOWER, and features military-spec standards for environmental and EMI. For cruise and energy operators, the X150D is the latest addition of the successful XEO Series, a 1.5m electronically switchable Ku/Ka-band terminal with a single feed. The XEO Series has already seen great traction in the market, through both the X130D and X130D PM, installed on commercial and military vessels since the launch in 2022. Designed for government, cruise, expedition vessels, superyachts, energy and shipping, XEO antennas are based on Intellian's proven design with multi-orbit LEO, MEO, GEO and HEO tracking capabilities. Read more

Lufthansa Group Selects Viasat for In-Flight Connectivity Upgrades

January 24, 2024 – Viasat, Inc. announced that Lufthansa Group has selected Viasat to equip more than 150 additional aircraft – across its Lufthansa, SWISS, and Austrian Airlines fleets – with the European Aviation Network (EAN) in-flight connectivity (IFC) solution. EAN combines S-band satellite coverage provided by Viasat with a complementary ground component network operated by long-standing Viasat and Lufthansa Group partner, Deutsche Telekom, delivering a service that supports streaming and other high bandwidth requirements. This announcement continues a successful, enduring partnership between the companies. Inmarsat, which was recently acquired by Viasat, has provided its Ka-band IFC service to Lufthansa Group since 2015. This connectivity solution is already onboard 240 Lufthansa Group narrow-body aircraft. The new selection showcases Lufthansa Group's ongoing commitment to driving an exceptional passenger experience, offering a consistent connectivity experience across its fleets, ensuring that no matter which route or aircraft passengers take, they can benefit from reliable in-flight connectivity. The additional 150+ aircraft include Airbus A320s, A320neos and A220s fleet types. Read more

Booz Allen Invests in Albedo to Develop Very Low Earth Orbit (VLEO) Satellite Constellation

January 23, 2024 – Booz Allen Hamilton announced that its corporate venture capital arm, Booz Allen Ventures, LLC, has made a strategic investment in Albedo, the first company to operate satellites in very low Earth orbit (VLEO), which enables them to offer ultra-high resolution commercial imagery from space. This investment supports Albedo's operational constellation deployment and is aligned to Booz Allen's efforts to accelerate U.S. space capabilities with the power of data. VLEO is positioned about half the distance between low Earth orbit (LEO) and the Earth's surface and is a new orbit that has not been fully utilized by the commercial market. Albedo is the first space company to commercialize this new frontier and offer high-resolution, aerial-quality imagery from space at a lower cost. This investment further supports the ability to leverage space as a critical data source for Booz Allen and its clients in the defense, national security, and civil arenas. Read more

Comtech Announces $45 Million Strategic Investment and Exchange of Convertible Preferred Stock

January 22, 2024 – Comtech Telecommunications Corp. announced a $45.0 million investment by current shareholders White Hat Capital Partners LP ("White Hat"), an investment firm focused on sustainable value creation in technology companies serving mission-critical applications, and funds affiliated with Magnetar, a leading alternative investment manager with over $14 billion of assets under management. Comtech expects to apply the proceeds of this investment across a range of initiatives which not only support near-term working capital needs and general corporate purposes, including the repayment of certain outstanding indebtedness, but also its growth prospects. The issuance of the new series of convertible preferred stock demonstrates the continued commitment of White Hat and Magnetar, and is an important step towards the completion of the Company's previously announced process to refinance its existing Credit Facility and further increase its financial and operational strength. Read more

Mitsubishi Electric Signs Teaming Agreement with Northrop Grumman

January 20, 2024 – Mitsubishi Electric Corporation announced that it has entered into a Teaming Agreement with Northrop Grumman Corporation for the purpose of potentially developing networking defense equipment related to integrated air defense systems. Under the Agreement, Mitsubishi Electric and Northrop Grumman will explore possibilities in integrating respective proprietary technologies to enhance the efficiency of networking technologies with an overall objective of developing a networking system to connect integrated air defense systems in future. With its highly advanced technologies, Mitsubishi Electric looks forward to continue contributing to Japan's national security by providing state of the art air defense systems to its customers and enhancing efficiencies in interoperability. Read more

Eutelsat OneWeb Supports Paratus South Africa for the Launch of its South Africa Connectivity Services

January 19, 2024 – Eutelsat Group announces that Paratus South Africa, a leading specialist connectivity provider, and Eutelsat OneWeb have partnered to enhance Paratus' connectivity offering in South Africa. Paratus South Africa already provides Geostationary (GEO) satellite services through its long-standing partnership with Eutelsat Group and this new agreement further strengthens its satellite connectivity services through a combined GEO/LEO offering to address businesses operating in remote parts of the country, notably retail, banking, mining, agriculture, and tourism. Under this latest agreement, Eutelsat OneWeb services have been integrated within the Paratus core fibre network covering over 20,000 kms across Sub-Saharan Africa, enabling Paratus South Africa to offer unique high-capacity connectivity solutions to its customers. Read more

Lynk and Telikom Launch Initial Sat2Phone Service for Telikom Subscribers

January 19, 2024 – Lynk Global, Inc. (Lynk), the world's leading satellite-direct-to-standard-phone ('sat2phone') telecoms provider, and Telikom Limited (Telikom), a prominent mobile operator in Papua New Guinea, jointly announced the commencement of initial Sat2Phone services for subscribers utilizing Lynk's "cell-towers-in-space." This collaboration is anticipated to significantly enhance mobile coverage in Papua New Guinea, benefiting both the local population and visitors. Telikom Limited, a leading telecommunication company in the South Pacific, is nationally owned and provides a range of telecommunication services in Papua New Guinea, including local, national, and international fixed-line and mobile services. Telikom engages in both retail and wholesale business, offering voice and data broadband services. The initial Sat2Phone service will begin with SMS and is expected to expand in the future to include voice and mobile broadband, ultimately delivering an urban-like mobile experience anywhere, no matter how remote. When achieved, ubiquitous connectivity will have the potential to offer life-saving emergency alerts and SMS warnings in areas vulnerable to natural disasters. Read more

AST SpaceMobile Secures Strategic Investment from AT&T, Google and Vodafone

January 19, 2024 – AST SpaceMobile, Inc. ("AST SpaceMobile"), the company building the first and only space-based cellular broadband network accessible directly by everyday smartphones, today announced strategic investment from AT&T, Google and Vodafone and aggregate new financing of up to $206.5 million in gross proceeds. In addition to the $155 million strategic investment, the company also plans to draw up to $51.5 million from the company's existing senior-secured credit facility. New investors AT&T and Google, joined by existing investor Vodafone, are at the forefront of wireless innovation, with products and services serving billions of people daily. This significant investment in AST SpaceMobile underscores confidence in the company's technology and leadership position in the emerging space-based cellular direct-to-device market, with the potential to offer connectivity to today's 5.5 billion cellular devices when they are out of coverage. Read more

Mage Networks Signs MoU for Telesat Lightspeed Services

January 17, 2024 – Telesat, one of the world's largest and most innovative satellite operators, and

Mage Networks, a leading Internet Service Provider and technology developer, today announced the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for Telesat Lightspeed Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellite services. Telesat and Mage Networks will collaborate on integrating commercial and technical aspects of Telesat Lightspeed high-throughput and low latency capacity into its services portfolio. Together they will develop demand and traffic projections and network performance criteria by market segment and define optimal business and operating models, with the objective of contracting Telesat Lightspeed services. Through this collaboration, Mage Networks will expand broadband internet services to unserved and underserved communities in Canada, leveraging the Telesat Lightspeed Capacity Pool that was established through a partnership between Telesat and the Government of Canada. Read more

du Teams up with Intelsat to Enhance Cellular Connectivity in Remote Areas Across the UAE

January 16, 2024 – du, from Emirates Integrated Telecommunications Company (EITC), has partnered with Intelsat, operator of one of the world's largest integrated satellite and terrestrial networks, to expand cellular connectivity across the UAE. This collaboration marks an exciting step towards enhancing cellular services nationwide, even in areas that were previously out of reach. This collaboration demonstrates du's commitment to delivering exceptional customer experiences and driving the digital transformation of the UAE. With this advanced networking infrastructure, end users will benefit from a superior connection experience regardless of their location. The partnership sets a new industry standard for cellular networks, paving the way for enhanced connectivity nationwide. Read more

Kratos Receives $50 Million in Awards for Counter UAS and Air Defense Systems

January 16, 2024 – Kratos Defense & Security Solutions, Inc., a Technology Company in Defense, National Security and Global Markets, announced today that it has recently received approximately $50 million in awards for Products and Hardware, including for and in support of Counter Unmanned Aerial System (CUAS), Air Defense and Radar Systems. The $50 million total includes contracts and programs that were awarded to Kratos on a single award or sole source basis. Kratos is an industry leader in systems, hardware and microwave electronics, including for and in support of CUAS, unmanned aerial drone, missile, radar and air defense related systems. At Kratos, affordability is a technology, with Kratos offerings envisioned and designed up front, for rapid, low-cost manufacturing and production, at scale and in large quantities. Work under these recently received awards will be performed at secure Kratos manufacturing facilities and customer locations. Read more

SnapGIS Joins Viasat's ELEVATE Program to Provide IoT Data Insights

January 16, 2024 – Viasat, Inc., a global leader in satellite communications, today announced SnapGIS, which provides advanced IoT monitoring, has joined its ELEVATE program. ELEVATE is a growth program, ecosystem and marketplace for ambitious IoT solution providers, connectivity wholesalers, enablers and OEMs who want to work with Viasat to use its network and footprint at scale. As an ELEVATE partner, SnapGIS will enable other ELEVATE partners using Viasat's global L-band network to provide cutting edge, Internet of Things (IoT) software. This aims to enable enhanced oversight, safety, and efficiency. Access to Viasat's ELEVATE partner network means SnapGIS can aim to help other ELEVATE partners and their customers to navigate the complexity of monitoring remote and critical operations by providing an IoT asset management platform. This simplifies vast data streams from various assets into coherent, actionable intelligence that enhances operational oversight and efficiency. Read more

John Deere Announces Strategic Partnership with SpaceX to Expand Rural Connectivity to Farmers through Satellite Communications

January 16, 2024 – Deere & Company, a global leader in the delivery of agricultural, construction, and forestry equipment, announced it has entered into an agreement with SpaceX to provide

cutting-edge satellite communications (SATCOM) service to farmers. Utilizing the industry-leading Starlink network, this solution will allow farmers facing rural connectivity challenges to fully leverage precision agriculture technologies. This partnership, an industry first, will enable John Deere customers to be more productive, profitable, and sustainable in their operations as they continue to provide food, fuel, and fiber for their communities and a growing global population. The SATCOM solution will connect both new and existing machines through satellite internet service and ruggedized satellite terminals. This will fully enable technologies such as autonomy, real-time data sharing, remote diagnostics, enhanced self-repair solutions, and machine-to-machine communication, all of which help farmers work more efficiently while minimizing downtime. Read more

Kacific's Innovation Elevates Disaster Resilience Communications to New Levels with CommsBox Ultra

January 15, 2024 – In response to escalating natural disasters impacting remote communities across the Asia-Pacific region, Kacific introduces the new and enhanced CommsBox – CommsBox Ultra, a game-changing advancement in disaster communication technology aimed at redefining emergency preparedness and response capabilities in high-risk areas. This introduction expands Kacific's range of disaster communication products, offering an enhanced version alongside the existing and trusted CommsBox. Since its 2022 launch, CommsBox has been a trusted solution, recognised with the prestigious Gold Stevie® Award for 'Achievement in Product Innovation'. It has earned the trust of multiple government agencies in Asia and the Pacific as an all-in-one, transportable WiFi communications solution for disaster relief. Various nations, including Fiji, the Philippines and Indonesia, have purchased units of CommsBox to ensure that communication is not compromised even in the aftermath of emergencies. Read more

ST Engineering Unveils Next-Generation AGIL® Secure Solution to Elevate Security Operations at Indonesia's Dhoho Kediri International Airport

January 15, 2024 – ST Engineering today announced that its Urban Solutions business has unveiled an advancement in airport security with the deployment of its next-generation AGIL® Secure Integrated Security Management Platform ("AGIL Secure") at the Dhoho Kediri International Airport in Indonesia, establishing the solution as a pioneer in on-demand, agile integrated security platforms. AGIL Secure offers comprehensive, real-time visibility and management of all security operations and functions across the airport and its associated buildings, ensuring a heightened level of safety for travellers. ST Engineering Urban Solutions is deploying the solution in collaboration with partner PT. Sinergi Teknoglobal Perkasa. Read more

Marlink Enables 250 Mbps Uplink for Geophysical Company PGS to Gather Critical Offshore Data

January 15, 2024 – Marlink, the smart network and digital solutions company, has upgraded the smart hybrid VSAT installation on the seismic research vessel Ramform Hyperion to provide an uplink speed of more than 250 megabits per second (Mbps) using GEO VSAT. This throughput was achieved to enable the transfer of seismic data from the vessel to its landside headquarters for processing in real time. The increase in capability and efficiency for the vessel's network reflects the very high value of the exploration 3D, high-density 3D or 4D undersea imaging it produces. Using a bespoke engineering approach, Marlink's in-house team of engineers designed a technical solution based on a 1.5m VSAT antenna, enabling seamless transfer of 2.7 terabytes of data from ship to shore in 24 hours. Longer term, the solution was able to provide an average capacity of more than 230 Mbps upload from the vessel. Read more

Azerbaijan Secured its Orbital Slot - 46° E in GSO

January 12, 2024 – The management of the C and Ku frequency bands served by the Azerspace-1 satellite located in the 46° East longitude geostationary orbit (GSO) slot is registered in the name of the government of Azerbaijan. The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) has granted approval for the registration. As is known, the Azerspace-1 telecommunication satellite, which was

launched in 2013, Malaysian's orbital slot 46° E and operated in the C and Ku frequency ranges of the orbital position. Now, the Azerspace-1 satellite is operating in the unique orbit of Azerbaijan. 46°E, the activity for transferring the position to Azerbaijan started on December 8, 2020, with the submission of the necessary documents to the ITU. Although the achievement of an orbital position in global practice covers a period under the seven-year ITU rule, this process was completed in three years by Azerbaijan's specialists in this field. During the past three years, the Azerbaijani side has successfully concluded coordination negotiations on 265 satellite networks of 34 governments and reached agreements. Note that the 46° E GSO slot is the first and only orbital position that Azerbaijan has in the geostationary belt. This also allows Azerbaijan to deploy future telecommunication satellites in its unique orbital slot. Read more

MEASAT to Distribute Starlink Services

January 11, 2024 – MEASAT Global Berhad ("MEASAT") – Malaysia's premier satellite solutions provider has officially signed with Space Exploration Technologies Corp. (SpaceX) to become the Official Authorised Reseller for Starlink Hardware and Services in the markets that MEASAT serves. The agreement was formalised in December 2023. The Official Authorised Reseller status enables MEASAT to solidify its position as a one-stop provider for customers in pursuit of the most suitable satellite services and solutions that address their needs. Meanwhile, Starlink will be able to benefit from MEASAT's established market presence and strong on-ground customer service and technical support, including a 24x7 helpdesk operated by in-country personnel and onsite support and maintenance. MEASAT's customers have long benefited from end-to-end inclusive packages for last mile logistics and installation services, as well as repair and maintenance, which will now extend to Starlink products offered by MEASAT. Read more

Gilat Announces New Brand Identity Embracing the Company's Commitment to the New Space Revolution

January 11, 2024 – Gilat Satellite Networks Ltd., a worldwide leader in satellite networking technology, solutions, and services, announced today the launch of a new brand identity embracing the company's commitment to the new space revolution, and reflecting the company's vision of the right of all people to be connected. The new brand identity, with a newly-designed logo inspired by Gilat's global reach and connectivity, is built to encapsulate the exciting changes in the space industry, with increased opportunities for growth and profitability, as strongly demonstrated by the company over the past year. 2023 included important wins with satellite operators and global customers, the launch of new products, major in-flight connectivity expansions, expanded leadership in satellite-based cellular backhaul, a strategic defense acquisition, and additional growth in other areas. Given these accomplishments, it was appropriate for the company's brand image to grow, as well. Read more

AST Secures Intellian OneWeb Certification

January 11, 2024 – Applied Satellite Technology Ltd (AST) has officially been awarded the Intellian OneWeb Certification, authorising the company to carry out installations of Intellian parabolic antennas. This significant milestone solidifies AST's position as a leader in providing seamless maritime connectivity solutions. The certification, issued by Intellian, a leading provider of satellite communication and antenna systems, underscores AST's commitment to offering cutting-edge solutions to its maritime clientele. With this accreditation, AST is now authorised to install and maintain Intellian's state-of-the-art parabolic antennas, further enhancing the company's ability to meet the evolving communication needs of the maritime industry. AST is empowered to further support the industry by offering certified training for Intellian OneWeb solutions, covering all modules including installation, commissioning, troubleshooting and certification. Read more

GMV Leads the Application of SAFe Agile in Aerospace Industry

January 10, 2024 – Last June, the European Space Agency (ESA) awarded the development of the

ground segment for control and in-orbit validation of the second generation of Galileo (G2G) to the multinational technology company GMV. This contract is an addition to those previously signed for the first generation of Galileo (G1G). The Galileo European Satellite Navigation System currently delivers positioning, navigation, and time synchronization services to over 4 billion users globally, with GMV playing an indisputably prominent role in its implementation. To deliver these services efficiently, GMV is incorporating SAFe (Scaled Agile Framework) into its project developments. This scaling methodology is recognized as the most widely used globally, as highlighted in the "16th Annual State of Agile Report" from 2022. Prominent companies, including Airbus, Boeing, Lockheed Martin, NASA, Porsche, Deutsche Bank, Société Générale, Chevron, Petrobas, IBM, and Air France, exemplify its successful implementation. Read more

Safran to Equip LeoStella Satellite Constellations

January 10, 2024 – LeoStella is pursuing its partnership with Syrlinks, a Safran Electronics & Defense company. The Rennes, France-based company will equip LeoStella's latest-generation of LS-300 satellite buses with its high-performance, resilient N-SPHERE GNSS receiver for low-Earth orbit applications. This latest contract further strengthens the collaboration between Syrlinks, a global leader in radiocommunication and geolocation systems for the space industry, and LeoStella, one of the main manufacturers of small satellite constellations in the United States. The two companies have agreed to integrate the N-SPHERE GNSS (global navigation satellite system) receiver from Syrlinks into LeoStella's latest satellite platform, the LS-300. This agreement positions Syrlinks as a major player of the international space industry. Read more

Banco Santander Funds Sateliot with €6 Million through its High- Growth Enterprise Program

January 10, 2024 – Sateliot, the company launching the first constellation of low-earth orbit (LEO) nanosatellites providing 5G coverage for IoT (Internet of Things), has secured a €6 million funding from Banco Santander. This financial backing from Banco Santander will enable Sateliot to accelerate the development of its technology and the deployment of its satellite constellation. In 2024, the company is poised for significant growth with the launch of four new satellites, marking the beginning of its commercial phase. With this transaction, Banco Santander reaffirms its commitment to the growth and digitization of companies and the promotion of innovation through its Growth program, particularly with the support of Santander Corporate & Investment Banking (Santander CIB). Read more

YanaSat Service from Marlink to Provide High-speed Internet in French Guiana

January 10, 2024 – Marlink, the smart network and digital solutions company, will leverage SES's satellite connectivity to operate YanaSat, a new publicly owned satellite network service in French Guiana. YanaSat will deliver digital connectivity services to homes, schools, medical centres, and administrations, alongside businesses located in areas not covered by terrestrial networks. The construction of the teleport with local gateway infrastructure that will host YanaSat has started at the Collectivité Territoriale de Guyane (CTG) compound in Suzini, Cayenne. The YanaSat service is already running over the SES-17 satellite and will be completed with full MEO satellite services delivered via SES' next-generation O3b mPOWER communications system by mid-2024, ultimately providing nearly 3.5 Gbps of capacity. Read more

Iridium Unveils Project Stardust; Developing the Only Truly Global, Standards-Based IoT and Direct-to-Device Service

January 10, 2024 – Iridium Communications Inc., a leading provider of global voice and data satellite communications, today announced Project Stardust, the evolution of its direct-to-device (D2D) strategy with 3GPP 5G standards-based Narrowband-Internet of Things (NB-IoT) Non-Terrestrial Network (NB-NTN) service development. As a new standards-based solution, it will be deployed on Iridium's existing satellite network giving the company a unique ability to offer both high-quality proprietary and standardized D2D and IoT services to its customers. The early stages of programming

Iridium's low-Earth orbiting (LEO) satellites offers a special opportunity to smartphone companies, OEMs, chipmakers, mobile network operators (MNO) and related IoT developers to have their requirements woven into the fabric of the Iridium® network. Iridium is already collaborating directly with several of these companies. Read more

KVH Expands Multi-orbit Hybrid Network with Eutelsat OneWeb High-speed, Low-latency Service

January 9, 2024 – KVH Industries, Inc. announced a distribution partnership agreement with LEO connectivity provider Eutelsat OneWeb. Under the terms of the deal, KVH will offer Eutelsat OneWeb's LEO connectivity services supporting terminals for commercial and leisure vessels via Eutelsat OneWeb's LEO satellite constellation. OneWeb's network compromises more than 630 satellites in low earth orbit that can deliver enterprise-grade broadband connectivity services. The company is rapidly expanding its network and ground infrastructure to meet the needs of maritime's global requirements. Read more

iDirect Government Establishes Engineering Center of Excellence To Combat Electronic Warfare, TRANSEC and Cyber Attacks

January 9, 2024 – With electronic warfare (EW) becoming increasingly prevalent in today's environment, iDirect Government (iDirectGov), a leading provider of satellite communications to the U.S. military and government, has established the iDirectGov Engineering Center of Excellence at its Herndon, VA, headquarters to address EW and other transmission security (TRANSEC) developments. The center, co-located with iDirectGov's existing engineering team, will enable the company to better respond to the ever-evolving EW and cyber threats, meeting defense and government requirements for faster-paced innovation to keep ahead of adversaries and bad actors that relentlessly target military satellite communications (MILSATCOM). The center will leverage iDirectGov's specialized Communication Signal Interference Removal™ (CSIR™) technology, which features crypto-agility, anti-jam, and strengthened security for the tactical edge and warfighter. Read more

Gilat Awarded Approximately $3M for a Satellite Connectivity Project for a National Police Force

January 9, 2024 – Gilat Satellite Networks Ltd., a worldwide leader in satellite networking technology, solutions, and services, announced today that a national police force awarded the company approximately three million dollars for a multi-year project. The national police force selected Gilat's solution, which is based on the highly regarded SkyEdge platform and a suite of services with an emphasis on reliable and secure connectivity. Gilat was chosen because of its ability to meet very stringent security requirements and solve issues that had been hampering communication for years. Gilat's field-proven and feature-rich SkyEdge platform consists of a high-performance hub system, a family of mission-specific VSATs, and an advanced network management system. Gilat will deploy a comprehensive solution based on its SkyEdge platform and a suite of services to deliver reliable and secure connectivity to the operators. Read more

Viasat Energy Expands Multi-Transponder Satellite Services Agreement with Es'hailSat

January 8, 2024 – Es'hailSat announced that Viasat Energy Services, a business unit of Viasat, Inc., has added multiple transponders on Es'hail-1 satellite located at the 25.5^{0}East hotspot and will avail itself of Teleport Services from Es'hailSat's 50,000 sqm facility in Doha to provide VSAT services across Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. Viasat Energy Services delivers optimized industry solutions, advanced global software, and secure communications infrastructure that allow industrial companies to obtain the business value of digital transformation. From remote locations to diverse multi-stage operations, Viasat Energy Services is the partner of choice for connecting distributed assets. As one of the world's leading digital service providers, Viasat Energy Services makes it easy for businesses to gain real-time insights from remote operations. With world-class industry-leading machine learning analytics, ultra-secure solutions spanning IP connectivity, bandwidth-optimized OTT and more, Viasat Energy Services supports the full evolution of digital

enablement. Viasat Energy Services and Es'hailSat together are looking to cater to Government, Maritime and Oil & Gas segments, among others, that are in constant need for reliable high-speed connectivity in remote and challenging environments. Lean more

Wiseband Partners with Rivada for Network Expansion in the Middle East

January 8, 2024 – Rivada Space Networks, a global network company launching a constellation of 600 low-earth-orbit satellites (LEO) to enable secure, global connectivity for governments and enterprises, is partnering with Wiseband, an Emirati satellite services company, to bring secure connectivity solutions to the Middle East region. Based in UAE and operating across the Middle East and Africa, Wiseband provides customized private satellite networking solutions which are designed to meet high-performance and stringent security requirements. The company currently has connectivity projects in UAE, KSA, Kuwait and Egypt. Rivada's global low-latency point-to-point orbital network, the OuterNET™, is a unique next-generation constellation combining inter-satellite laser links with advanced onboard processing to provide unique routing and switching capabilities and create an optical mesh network in space. Read more

Kratos and Rancher Government Solutions Announce Strategic Partnership

January 4, 2024 – Kratos Defense & Security Solutions, Inc., a technology company in Defense, National Security and Global Markets and Rancher Government Solutions (RGS), the leading provider of enterprise Kubernetes management solutions to the U.S. Government, announced today a strategic partnership to enable customers to seamlessly deploy and scale virtual ground systems using Kratos' software-based OpenSpace® Platform. With increasingly complex and dynamic satcom and Earth Observation missions, satellite operators and government agencies are transitioning from fixed and proprietary hardware to flexible and scalable generic compute-based cloud environments. This enables a virtualized and software-defined ground system like Kratos' OpenSpace Platform to more cost effectively and securely support multiple missions simultaneously, deliver services faster and streamline operations. Read more

EchoStar Corporation Completes Merger with DISH Network Corporation

January 2, 2024 – EchoStar Corporation announced today the completion of its acquisition of DISH Network Corporation ("DISH Network") on December 31, 2023. To complete the acquisition, a wholly owned subsidiary of EchoStar merged with and into DISH Network, with DISH Network surviving the merger as a wholly owned subsidiary of EchoStar. The transaction combines DISH Network's satellite technology, streaming services and nationwide 5G network with EchoStar's premier satellite communications solutions, creating a global leader in terrestrial and non-terrestrial wireless connectivity. Both companies have strong momentum, highlighted by DISH Network's 5G wireless network that now covers more than 70 percent of the U.S. population and the successful launch of EchoStar's JUPITER 3 satellite with significant available capacity for converged terrestrial and non-terrestrial services. The combined company is uniquely positioned to deliver a broad set of communication and content distribution capabilities, accelerating the delivery of satellite and wireless connectivity solutions desired by customers. Read more

BROADCAST

French Television Launches France 2 in UHD on DTT with Immediate Nationwide Coverage via Eutelsat Group Subsidiary FRANSAT

January 23, 2024 – France Télévisions today announced that it will be broadcasting its France 2 channel in 4K-UHD (Ultra High Definition) from tomorrow via digital terrestrial television (DTT) and simultaneously on the FRANSAT free-to-air bouquet, a subsidiary of satellite operator Eutelsat Group. This will ensure extensive and immediate coverage of mainland France just a few months ahead of the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games. France Télévisions is the first French TV broadcaster to bring a domestic channel up to the standards of tomorrow's television, with picture clarity

comparable to that experienced by the naked eye, and immersive true-to-life sound rendition. TV audiences will also be able to enjoy this cutting-edge viewing experience alongside France 2 and France 3's coverage of the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games (which will also be broadcast in UHD on DTT). Read more

Es'hailSat and TMC Sign Agreement for Providing Digital Satellite News Gathering (DSNG) and Outdoor Broadcast Van (OBVAN) Services in Qatar

January 21, 2024 – Es'hailSat is proud to announce its partnership with Total Media Cast (TMC) to be able to provide Digital Satellite News Gathering Services (DSNG) and Outdoor Broadcast Van (OBVAN) services in Qatar and across Middle East and North Africa (MENA). The two companies have agreed to collaborate closely with each other in the leasing of the DSNG Vehicle and Equipment to end customers, with a specific focus on news agencies and journalists, particularly for news gathering and related purposes. Total Media Cast (TMC) was established at the beginning of the 2nd decade of the new millennium, by experienced individuals from different channels and broadcast companies worldwide. TMC aims to provide clients with expert broadcast & operations consultation studies, digital media management, integration services, news gathering & media logistics services, and space segment lease services. Learn more

Fadaat Media Expands Services with Es'hailSat on Es'hail-1 Satellite

January 9, 2024 – Es'hailSat, the Qatar Satellite Company, is proud to announce growth in their partnership with Fadaat Media Group by adding Video Contribution services to their portfolio on Es'hail-1 satellite located at the 25.5^{0} East hotspot covering Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. These are additional services to a multi-channel, multi-year deal between Fadaat Media and Es'hailSat which includes satellite television broadcasting and connectivity from Es'hailSat's Teleport to Fadaat Media's facilities in Lusail, Qatar. The entities benefiting from this service include the Alaraby TV Network's two channels, Alaraby TV, the news channel, and Alaraby2, the cultural entertainment channel, along with Syria TV in Istanbul. Es'hailSat provides satellite, broadcast, teleport and managed services from Doha, Qatar and brings to this relationship more than 12 years of experience in catering to broadcasters, telecommunication companies, enterprises, mobility applications and governments across the Middle East and North Africa. Es'hailSat's infrastructure including two satellites at 25.5/26 East together with our 50,000 sqm teleport facility provides reliable and robust connectivity services. Lean more

LAUNCH / SPACE

Rocket Lab Successfully Launches First Electron Mission of Busy 2024 Launch Schedule

January 31, 2024 – Rocket Lab USA, Inc. launched its first Electron mission for 2024, a space-junk focused mission for Spire Global, Inc ("Spire") and NorthStar Earth & Space ("NorthStar"). The 'Four Of A Kind' mission for Spire's customer NorthStar successfully launched from Rocket Lab Launch Complex 1 in New Zealand at 19:34 NZDT / 06:34 UTC. Rocket Lab's Electron rocket deployed four Space Situational Awareness (SSA) satellites to a 530km circular Earth orbit where the satellites, built and operated by Spire, will monitor near-Earth objects from space to provide timely and precise information for space object detection, tracking, orbit determination, collision avoidance, navigation, and proximity alerts. The mission was Rocket Lab's 43rd Electron launch overall, bringing the Company's record of successfully deployed satellites to 176. The mission was the first of a busy launch year for Rocket Lab, with the Company scheduled to launch more in 2024 than any previous year since the Company began missions in 2017. Read more

Los Alamos National Laboratory Orders Second Satellite from NanoAvionics for GTO Mission

January 31, 2024 – Smallsat mission integrator Kongsberg NanoAvionics US (NanoAvionics) has received a mission contract by Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), one of the largest science and

technology institutions in the world. The 12U (1U equals 10×10×10 cm3) spacecraft, about the size of a microwave oven, will host the Experiment for Space Radiation Analysis (ESRA) mission. ESRA is the latest of a series of Demonstration and Validation missions built by the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), with the focus of this mission on testing next generation charged particle sensors and critical flight subsystems. ESRA will be inserted in Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO) and make observations of the Earth's dynamic radiation belts during the solar maximum. To date, no CubeSat has ever provided observations of the energetic charged particles that populate the radiation belts. Read more

SmartSat and New Zealand Space Agency Collaborate on Joint R&D Initiatives to Advance Space Sector Innovation

January 30, 2024 – SmartSat has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the New Zealand Space Agency (NZSA) to accelerate the growth of Australian and New Zealand space industries. Under the new agreement, SmartSat and NZSA will collaborate to develop new capabilities and expertise in the space sector through the advancement of innovation, R&D, and workforce development. The agreement was signed at the NZSA headquarters in Wellington by Professor Andy Koronios, SmartSat CRC Chief Executive Officer and Robyn Henderson, Acting Head of the New Zealand Space Agency. Under this agreement, up to NZ $6 million will be made available from the NZ Government's Catalyst Fund to support New Zealand researchers to participate in new joint research initiatives. Read more

GKN Aerospace Collaborates with Northrop Grumman on SMART Demo Rocket Test Motor

January 30, 2024 – GKN Aerospace has been selected by Northrop Grumman to help develop components for a revolutionary solid rocket motor demonstrator. The first Solid Motor Annual Rocket Technology Demonstrator (SMART Demo) successfully tested a new motor that was developed in less than a year to showcase innovative technologies, including alternative manufacturing materials and processes. Underpinned by GKN Aerospace's ground-breaking AM capability, the project demonstrated technologies that could reduce production lead times by up to 75 percent. GKN Aerospace has been a pioneer in additive manufacturing for around two decades, with prominent research and technology centres in Sweden and the UK, as well as the USA. This month, the business announced a joint investment of £50 million with the Swedish Energy Agency into cutting-edge additive technology in Trollhättan, Sweden. GKN Aerospace has been a supplier to Northrop Grumman for many years. In 2022 GKN Aerospace showcased its additive manufacturing leadership with an 8-foot titanium demonstrator, the largest AM component it had ever produced, in partnership with NGC. Read more

Hellas Sat and Thales Alenia Space Sign a MoU to develop Optical Communication Payload for Hellas Sat 5 Satellite

January 26, 2024 – Hellas Sat and Thales Alenia Space have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to collaborate on the development of an optical communication payload for the upcoming new mission to be embarked on the future Hellas Sat 5 telecommunications satellite, operating in geostationary orbit at 39 degrees East. The partnership between Hellas Sat and Thales Alenia Space aims to provide cutting-edge communication services with very high data rates from geostationary orbit. This innovative payload aims to connect with Optical Ground Station of the National Athens Observatory in Greece, Optical Ground Stations in France, Optical Ground Stations of ESA and Thales Alenia Space's LEO HydRON telecommunication satellite. After Vertigo H2020 programme, Thales Alenia Space is currently advancing the development of very high data rate capacities (up to 1 terabit/second) facing long distances from ground to geostationary orbit and cross-atmospheric turbulence, with support from France Relance (CO-OP), CNES (DYSCO) and ESA (HydRON). Read more

PLD Space Awarded PERTE Contract to Develop Space Launcher for 40.5 Million Euros

January 26, 2024 – The Spanish aerospace company PLD Space has won the second phase of the

project for the development of a Spanish launcher for small satellites, framed within the Aerospace PERTE (Strategic Project for Economic Recovery and Transformation), which has a tender amount of 40.5 million euros. The company has been appointed as sole contractor, having earned the highest technical rating from the Contracting Committee, which consists of independent experts from the Centre for Technological Development and Innovation (CDTI). This PERTE Aerospace initiative, promoted by the Spanish government, aims to cultivate a strategic national asset: access to space. To fulfill this ambition, the contract mandates that the selected bidder must design, construct, and conduct testing on an orbital launcher flight unit by 2025. The project is managed through the pre-commercial public procurement (PCP) instrument of the CDTI, which operates on a counter-performance format, requiring the reimbursement of the received amount. This repayment will be made through the payment of royalties during the first 10 years of its commercial phase, scheduled to commence in 2026. Read more

Firefly Aerospace Onboarded as Launch Provider for the NRO with Alpha Rocket

January 25, 2024 – Firefly Aerospace, Inc., an end-to-end space transportation company, today announced it was selected by the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) to serve as a launch provider with Firefly's Alpha rocket. As part of the NRO's Streamlined Launch Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity Contract (SLIC), the agreement has a 10-year ordering period with a ceiling value of $700 million across all firm fixed-price task orders. The SLIC program was established by the NRO's Office of Space Launch to leverage commercial best practices for responsive space missions and encourage competition among emerging launch providers. SLIC is open to U.S. launch vehicles with a proven orbital record and allows providers to bid dedicated, rideshare, or multi-manifest launch services. Read more

Astroscale's ELSA-d Finalizes De-Orbit Operations Marking Successful Mission Conclusion

January 24, 2024 – Astroscale Holdings Inc. ("Astroscale"), the market leader in satellite servicing and long-term orbital sustainability across all orbits, announces it has completed the final phase of its End-of-Life Services by Astroscale (ELSA-d) mission with the safe and controlled de-orbit operations of the ELSA-d servicer satellite using the remaining operational thrusters, marking the successful conclusion of the pioneering mission. The servicer is orbiting at an altitude of approximately 500km and will re-enter and burn-up in approximately 3.5 years – well within the commonly adopted 25-year guidelines. The client satellite, which does not have the ability to maneuver, will naturally de-orbit over the next 10 years. ELSA-d was the world's first commercial mission to prove the core technologies necessary for on-orbit satellite servicing in low Earth orbit (LEO). The mission, which consisted of two satellites – a servicer designed to safely remove debris from orbit and a client that serves as a piece of replica debris – was launched as a stack from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan in March 2021. Read more

ClearSpace and Orbit Fab Partner to Create In-Space Refueling Service

January 24, 2024 – ClearSpace, a global leader in in-orbit servicing, and Orbit Fab, the premier provider of on-orbit refueling services, today announced a multi-faceted strategic partnership to advance in-space refueling and servicing capabilities that will revolutionize space operations and serve as a foundation for a vibrant and sustainable space economy. Under the memorandum of understanding (MoU), Orbit Fab and ClearSpace will develop key enabling technologies, building on their initial collaborative work that began several years ago. The two companies will leverage their complementary capabilities and missions to accelerate the availability of propellants in space by creating a refueling service architecture pairing an Orbit Fab fuel depot with a ClearSpace shuttle. Read more

Pale Blue to Set up New Development Base for Production Technologies in Tsukuba

January 24, 2024 – Pale Blue Inc. (Pale Blue) will establish a new development base for production technologies in Tsukuba City in Ibaraki Prefecture aiming for business expansion of water-based

propulsion systems towards the company's vision of creating mobility capabilities that are core to the space industry. Pale Blue has also been awarded the Ibaraki Prefecture Corporate Location Promotion Subsidy, expected to be around USD 1M (JPY 150M), and the company will strengthen collaboration with the Ibaraki Prefecture. Read more

Smart Lander for Investigating Moon "SLIM" Touches Down on Moon

January 20, 2024 – Mitsubishi Electric Corporation announced that its Smart Lander for Investigating Moon (SLIM), developed by the company under contract with the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), successfully landed on the lunar surface at 00:20 a.m. on January 20 (Japan Standard Time). This is Japan's first lunar landing, making it the fifth country to safely land a spacecraft on the Moon, joining Russia (Soviet Union), the United States, China and India. The SLIM was developed to demonstrate high-precision landing technology on the Moon using a small spacecraft and to increase the frequency of lunar and planetary exploration with a lightweight lunar and planetary probe system. It was launched into space on September 7, 2023 aboard an H-IIA rocket. The SLIM is considered to be a foundation for future lunar and planetary exploration, so its successful lunar landing is expected to pave the way for further progress in these fields. Read more

UK Sovereign Satellite Navigation Overlay Successfully Demonstrated for First Time

January 18, 2024 – Viasat has demonstrated a UK satellite-based augmentation system (UK SBAS) for the first time, showing how highly accurate GPS data can maximize safety and improve efficiency. The test flight, flown from Cranfield Airport using the National Flying Laboratory Centre's Saab 340B aircraft, showcased a UK-based SBAS that delivers more precise, reliable navigation data. The UK is no longer part of the EU's similar European Geostationary Navigation Overlay Service (EGNOS), following its exit from the European Union. While EGNOS can still be used for non-safety applications in the UK, the trial aims to provide a first step toward a complementary UK SBAS which can be used for critical safety of life navigation services across air, land, and sea. UK SBAS works by combining ground monitoring data with satellite connectivity to provide more reliable navigational data. Across a range of applications, it can offer positioning down to a few centimeters of accuracy, rather than the few metres provided by standard GPS. Read more

Sidus Space Announces Technology Hosting Payload Contract with ASPINA for LizzieSat Mission

January 16, 2024 – Sidus Space, a multi-faceted Space and Data-as-a-Service company, today announced it has secured an agreement with ASPINA, a Japanese technology company, for technology hosting onboard the Company's upcoming LizzieSat™ mission, currently scheduled for launch with SpaceX in the second quarter of 2025. As per the agreement's terms, Sidus will host a payload mission in collaboration with ASPINA to demonstrate their reaction wheel in orbit. Reaction wheels are crucial for controlling the attitude of small satellite constellations without the need for rockets or external torque applications, making them a cost-effective solution for micro and small satellites. ASPINA is currently scaling up the production of reaction wheels to meet the growing demands of the small satellite sector. Read more

Pixxel Opens First-of-its-kind Spacecraft Manufacturing Facility in Bengaluru, India

January 15, 2024 – Pixxel, a leader in innovative hyperspectral earth-imaging technology inaugurated its first Spacecraft Manufacturing Facility "MegaPixxel" in Bengaluru today. The new facility, spanning more than 30,000 sq ft, consolidates all satellite manufacturing services, providing a comprehensive Spacecraft Assembly, Integration, and Testing (AIT) facility under one roof. The facility will ensure a streamlined production process from concept to launch – providing a space for Pixxel's satellites to be designed from scratch, manufactured, integrated, and tested for launch conditions before being shipped to the launch site. With this facility, Pixxel aims to establish a robust infrastructure for large-scale satellite manufacturing, adapt to the dynamic needs of customers, and set a new benchmark for efficiency and innovation. Read more

Maxar Space Systems-built Ovzon 3 Satellite Launched

January 4, 2024 – Maxar Space Systems, a leading provider of comprehensive space technologies, today announced that the Ovzon 3 satellite is performing as expected after launch. Maxar Space Systems manufactured the satellite for Ovzon at their Palo Alto, California, facility using its modular architecture platform. The satellite launched on a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket from Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida on Jan 3, 2024. Maxar Space Systems designed and manufactured this specialized satellite for Ovzon, a Swedish-based SATCOM as-a-Service provider dedicated to offering world-leading mobile satellite communications services, to customers across the globe. Ovzon 3 is Maxar's first use of their new all electric Modular Architecture Platform (MAP), which allows for parallel processing of separate modules to improve production efficiencies. Read more

Maxar Intelligence Wins NGA Contract for Precision3D Data

January 4, 2024 – Maxar Intelligence, a provider of secure, precise, geospatial intelligence, today announced that it received a contract to provide the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) with a Precision3D™ Data Suite bundle covering 160,000 square kilometers within the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command area of responsibility. The commercial 3D data provided by Maxar will support the work of NGA's Office of Geomatics, which maintains accurate 3D GEOINT products in support of a diverse group of military and civilian customers. Maxar's Precision3D Data Suite is built using multiview photogrammetry methods, resulting in highly accurate and detailed 3D models with 50-centimeter resolution and absolute accuracy of 3 meters in all dimensions. The accuracy is achieved without ground control and is consistent on all surfaces and terrain types, including building facades. Read more

LEAP-TD Mission Success! Dhruva Space Open for Business as a Hosted Payload Solutions Provider

January 3, 2024 – Dhruva Space is pleased to share the successful Space-qualification of its P-30 Satellite Platform launched as 'Launching Expeditions for Aspiring Payloads – Technology Demonstrator' Payload onboard ISRO's PSLV-C58 POEM-3 mission. The launch took place at 09:10 IST on 01 January 2024, from the First Launch Pad at Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh. The LEAP-TD mission featured a derivative of the Dhruva Space P-30 satellite platform integrated to ISRO's PSLV Orbital Experimental Module 3 (POEM-3), which enabled in-orbit scientific experiments using the spent PS4 stage as an orbital platform. POEM has standard interfaces and packages for power generation, telemetry, tele-command, stabilisation, orbit keeping and orbit manoeuvring and hence can be used to design, develop and validate experimental payloads. IN-SPACe in collaboration with ISRO, had announced the opportunity to host payload on POEM missions. This mission has validated the P-30 platform and its various subsystems in-orbit. Read more

First SpaceX Satellites Launch for Breakthrough Direct to Cell Service with T-Mobile

January 3, 2024 – T-Mobile announced that SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket launched the first set of Starlink satellites with Direct to Cell capabilities, following the livestreamed webcast last night. This is a significant milestone following last year's joint announcement of the Coverage Above and Beyond initiative, which aims to bring connectivity nearly everywhere in the U.S. for Un-carrier customers – even in many of the most remote locations previously unreachable by traditional cell signals from any provider … aka dead zones. Now that the satellites are in low-Earth orbit, field testing can soon begin on the new service that will leverage SpaceX's constellation of satellites with Direct to Cell technology and T-Mobile's industry-leading wireless network. With well over half a million square miles of the U.S. and vast stretches of ocean unreachable by terrestrial network coverage, due to terrain limitations, land-use restrictions and more, this new service aims to give customers a crucial additional layer of connectivity when and where they need it most. Read more

EXECUTIVE MOVES

Orbital Outpost X Names Negar Feher as Chief Executive Officer
January 30, 2024 – Orbital Outpost X, INC (OOX), a start-up developing technologies for space and terrestrial applications, announces Negar Feher has joined the company as its new Chief Executive Officer, effective immediately. Feher brings over 20 years of leadership experience in established and early-stage aerospace companies. Her career has included management and technical positions at Maxar, Lockheed Martin, Momentus, and SpaceRyde. She has a proven track record in scaling startups to commercial operations, served as a catalyst for early revenue generation while introducing new products and solutions to the marketplace, and securing key partnerships enabling exponential growth and diversification in each of her roles. (For more information, visit https://www.orbitaloutpostx.com/)

REPORTS

New WTA Report Examines How Satellite and Teleport Operators are Both Driving and Adapting to Change
January 9, 2024 – WTA has released its newest research report, *The Teleport Business Model in a Software-Driven World*. In this report, teleport, satellite and technology decision-makers share their forecasts for the industry, their identification of customer value and the moves they are making today to prepare for a new future. Read more

Middle East's Space Sector Surges: White Paper Unveils $75 Billion Projection by 2032
January 8, 2024 – Euroconsult, a recognized leader in global strategy consulting and market intelligence firm specialized in the space sector and satellite-enabled verticals, has launched its latest white paper, "*Beyond the Stars: The Middle East's Space Ecosystem on the Move.*" This in-depth analysis reveals the astounding growth potential of the Middle East's space sector, projecting a monumental surge to $75 billion by 2032, reshaping the global space narrative. To access the full white paper, visit: https://www.euroconsult-ec.com/beyond-the-stars-the-middle-east-space-ecosystem/

UPCOMING EVENTS

Smallsat Symposium 2024, February 6-8, Silicon Valley, CA, USA, https://2024.smallsatshow.com/

Global Space and Technology Convention, February 14-16, Singapore,
https://www.space.org.sg/gstc/

The Global Space and Technology Convention (GSTC) is an annual thought-leadership platform organised by Singapore Space and Technology Ltd. It is held in Singapore and gathers over 1000 space enthusiasts from around the world. The convention brings together C-level executives, high-level specialists, researchers, and government representatives to learn, exchange insights, and enhance industry collaborations.

Join the conference on the 15th and 16th of February, held at the Sheraton Towers Singapore, for enlightening talks, networking opportunities, meetings, and updates on the latest industry trends and developments!

APSCC members and readers are entitled to 10% off International Delegate passes. Use the code 'DISCAPSCC' during registration – *www.space.org.sg/gstc/#registration*

Paris Space Week 2024, March 12-13, Paris, France, https://www.paris-space-week.com

Asia Video Summit, March 13-14, Hong Kong, https://asiavideosummit.com/

Discount code AVSPNRS for APSCC members and readers to enjoy 15% off ticket purchase for Asia Video Summit 2024.

Satellite 2024, March 18-21, Washington DC, USA, https://www.satshow.com/

With a rich history dating back to 1981, SATELLITE Conference & Exhibition is renowned as the premier destination for those seeking to stay at the forefront of the satellite industry. Over four immersive days, we curate an unrivaled program of executive-level discussions, financial insights, technical content, and visionary keynotes delivered by industry luminaries and trailblazers. On the largest show floor dedicated to satellite technology, you'll meet with the full supply chain of providers that keep this industry blazing new trails. Learn more at www.SATShow.com.

Use VIP Code: APSCC4SAT24 to save $350 on a conference-level pass or claim a FREE Exhibit Hall pass.

Space Symposium, April 8-11, Colorado Springs, CO, USA, https://www.spacesymposium.org/

NAB Show 2024, April 13-17, Las Vegas, NV, USA, https://nabshow.com/2024/

Future of Video India, April 25, Mumbai, India, https://avia.org/all_events/future-of-video-india-2024/

CABSAT 2024, May 21-23, Dubai, UAE, www.cabsat.com

Satellite Industry Forum, May 28, Singapore, https://www.aviasif.com/

Asia Tech x Singapore, May 29-31, Singapore, https://asiatechxsg.com/

CommunicAsia2024, May 29-31, Singapore, https://asiatechxsg.com/communicasia/

India Space Congress 2024, June 26-28, New Delhi, India, https://www.indiaspacecongress.com/

Australasia Satellite Forum 2024, June 3-4, Sydney, Australia, https://www.talksatellite.com/EVENTS.htm

SmallSat 2024, August 3-8, Logan, UT, USA, https://smallsat.org/
IBC 2024, September 13-16, Amsterdam, Netherlands, https://show.ibc.org/

World Satellite Business Week 2024, September 16-20. Paris, France, https://wsbw.com/

IAC 2024, October 14-18, Milan, Italy, https://www.iafastro.org/events/iac/international-astronautical-congress-2024/

APSCC 2024 Satellite Conference & Exhibition (APSCC 2024), November 5-7, Bangkok, Thailand, https://apsccsat.com/

EDITORIALS AND INQUIRIES

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

Inho Seo, Editor, APSCC Publication
Asia-Pacific Satellite Communications Council (APSCC)
T-1602, 170, Seohyeon-ro, Bundang-gu, Seongnam-si,
Gyeonggi-do, 13590, Rep. of KOREA
Tel: +82 31 783 6247 | Fax: +82 31 783 6249
E-mail: editor@apscc.or.kr Website: www.apscc.or.kr

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.