

APSCC Monthly e-Newsletter

JULY 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.apsc.or.kr. To unsubscribe, send an email to info@apsc.or.kr with a title "Unsubscribe."

News in this issue has been collected from June 1 to June 30.

INSIDE APSCC

Early Bird Registration is Now Open!

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 apsc2024@apsc.or.kr

[Visit APSCC 2024 Website and Register Now](#)

SATELLITE BUSINESS

Viasat to Deliver Secure Broadband SATCOM on Airbus' C295 MPA Fleet for Spanish MoD

June 27, 2024 – Viasat Inc., a global leader in satellite communications, today announced that it is expanding its work with Airbus Defence and Space to provide its secure, flexible broadband Ku- and Ka-band airborne technology for the Airbus C295 Maritime Patrol Aircraft (MPA) that have been acquired by the Spanish Ministry of Defence (MoD). Viasat and Airbus Defence and Space will collaborate on the integration of Viasat's dual-band (Ku/Ka) broadband terminal, the GAT-5530, into the Spanish C295 MPA fleet to provide a highly flexible, multi-band and multi-orbit, broadband SATCOM capability to support missions utilizing the sovereign, next-generation SpainSat NG satellites.

[Read more](#)

Comtech Launches Artificial Intelligence-Enabled Public Safety Solution

June 27, 2024 – Comtech announced the launch of SmartAssist™, an artificial intelligence ("AI")-backed solution developed to answer low-priority non-emergency calls without engaging a telecommunicator. SmartAssist is designed to help Emergency Communications Centers ("ECCs") and Public Safety Answering Points ("PSAPs") manage call and Internet of Things device volumes by using AI chatbots to answer and triage non-emergency calls. The first of many applications in SmartAssist relies on AI bots programmed using conversational design to understand the natural language of the caller and resolve the caller's request without the need for human intervention for non-emergency calls. [Read more](#)

Gilat Receives over \$14M in Orders Expanding Further into the IFC Market

June 27, 2024 – Gilat Satellite Networks Ltd., a worldwide leader in satellite networking technology, solutions, and services, announced today that it has secured over \$14 million in orders from several prominent service providers and system integrators for its In-Flight Connectivity (IFC) products and solutions. These include Network equipment, Solid State Power Amplifiers (SSPAs), and additional IFC auxiliary products. These orders demonstrate the company's leadership position in the growing IFC market for commercial and business aviation. This position will be significantly strengthened with

Gilat's recent acquisition of Stellar Blu Solutions. Gilat's airborne solutions, renowned for their superior performance, reliability, and user experience, are deployed globally and on thousands of IFC-enabled aircraft. [Read more](#)

Telespazio Joins Viasat's ELEVATE Program to Provide Satellite Solutions for Remote IoT Connectivity

June 26, 2024 – Viasat, Inc. announced Telespazio, a joint venture between Leonardo (67%) and Thales (33%), has joined its ELEVATE program. ELEVATE is a growth program, ecosystem and marketplace for ambitious IoT solution providers, enablers and OEMs who want to work with Viasat to use its network and footprint to scale. As an ELEVATE partner, Telespazio will deliver high-performance connectivity and enable remote IoT for diverse industries. As part of the program Telespazio will consolidate its access to Viasat's global L-band network to provide Internet of Things (IoT) and satellite connectivity services. Through ELEVATE, it will help its customers connect their people, systems and remote assets by providing a range of satellite connectivity services, including data airtime packages. [Read more](#)

Leaf Space Enables Sateliot to Scale without Significant Capex in the Ground Segment

June 26, 2024 – Sateliot, the first company to operate a low-Earth orbit (LEO) nanosatellite constellation with 5G IoT standards and that extends coverage of Mobile Telecom Operators to any place in the planet, has successfully integrated its satellite communication stack with Leaf Space's Ground Segment as a Service (GSaaS) Network. This milestone is crucial for the upcoming Transporter-11 mission by SpaceX, during which Sateliot will launch four new 6U satellites to further global 5G IoT connectivity. Leaf Space's GSaaS ensures that Sateliot's constellation can scale efficiently, providing redundancy and robust support for continuous operations. The distributed network of 23 ground stations worldwide supports over 100 satellites, offering seamless coverage and reliability. [Read more](#)

Azercosmos Signed a Memorandum of Cooperation with a Czech Company

June 25, 2024 – A memorandum of cooperation has been signed between Azercosmos and the Czech company "PEKASAT SE." This memorandum aims to expand new business opportunities by mutually utilizing ground stations for low-orbit satellite operations. Both parties will collaborate in Azerbaijan and the Czech Republic to provide their clients with telemetry services, including the reception of control signals and the sending of commands to satellites, the transmission of large volumes of data from satellites, and the exchange of expertise in the operation of ground infrastructure. PEKASAT SE is a Czech, private owned European joint stock company based in Brno, Czech Republic. With its Ground station facility located in Vlkos u Kyjova offers satellite operator and other customers various services on multiple antenna systems operating in UHF/VHF, S- and X-bands. [Read more](#)

Synspective Secures 7 Billion Yen in Series C Funding

June 20, 2024 – Synspective Inc., a Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) satellite data and analytics solutions provider, has announced the successful raise of 7 billion yen in a Series C funding round. The latest funding was led by Japan Growth Capital Investment Corporation, managed by Nomura SPARX Investment, Inc., and Investment Limited Partnerships operated by JAFCO Group Co., Ltd. and Investment Limited Partnerships operated by Mizuho Capital Co., Ltd., among others. Since our founding, our total funding for third-party allotment has been 28.1 billion yen and 8.3 billion yen for loan contracts. Synspective develops and operates high-frequency, high-resolution SAR satellites to provide data analytics and solution services. On March 13, 2024, we launched our fourth SAR satellite, StriX-3, successfully reaching its target orbit and spreading its wings. We aim to establish a constellation of 30 SAR satellites by the late 2020s, enabling us to observe changes anywhere on Earth. [Read more](#)

Isar Aerospace Extends Series C to over EUR 220m with Strong Commitment from NATO Innovation Fund

June 20, 2024 – Satellite launch service company Isar Aerospace today announced a significant extension of its Series C round by more than EUR 65m, now totaling more than EUR 220m. The extension received a strong commitment from NATO Innovation Fund (NIF), a standalone venture capital fund backed by 24 NATO Allies which deploys EUR 1bn+ to empower deep tech companies addressing challenges in defence, security and resilience. This marks the first-ever direct investment in a satellite service launch provider from the NATO Innovation Fund and highlights the multifaceted importance of space technologies, which are pivotal for both civilian innovation and defence capabilities. [Read more](#)

SES Announces Successful Syndication and Raising of €3 Billion Acquisition Financing

June 19, 2024 – SES S.A. announces the successful syndication of a €3 billion equivalent acquisition financing package to support the earlier announced agreement for SES to acquire Intelsat S.A.. Prior to the Intelsat deal announcement, Deutsche Bank AG and Morgan Stanley jointly had underwritten a €3 billion bridge facility to support SES's financing requirements as part of the agreement to acquire Intelsat. This €3 billion bridge facility has been successfully syndicated now, with a highly oversubscribed level of commitments, to an international group of existing relationship and new banks in the form of a €2.1 billion bridge facility and US\$1 billion term loan. The term loan was upsized in syndication on the back of a strong response from the bank group. [Read more](#)

SKY Perfect JSAT Signs Contribution Agreement with the United Nations World Food Programme to Provide Emergency Satellite Internet in the Philippines

June 18, 2024 – SKY Perfect JSAT Corporation announced it has signed a contribution agreement with the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP). This partnership aims to contribute to WFP's emergency operations by providing satellite-based internet connection that can be utilized in the case of emergencies in the Philippines to facilitate timely emergency food assistance and humanitarian responses. Natural hazards, including cyclones, earthquakes and volcanic activities, have become more frequent in recent years due to factors such as climate change, causing severe damage. In response, SKY Perfect JSAT will utilize its JCSAT-1C satellite to help provide vital communications support when local terrestrial networks are unavailable. This marks SKY Perfect JSAT's first corporate social responsibility initiative with WFP. Additionally, SKY Perfect JSAT is the first Asian-based satellite operator to offer technical expertise of a holistic satellite solution to the WFP covering a comprehensive range of services, including satellite internet line, ground equipment, maintenance, and support. This partnership will contribute to enhanced emergency preparedness of the WFP-led Emergency Telecommunications Cluster. [Read more](#)

OneWeb Technologies and Kymeta Demonstrate Satellite Communications Solutions with U.S. Navy aboard the USS Abraham Lincoln

June 18, 2024 – OneWeb Technologies Inc., a premier provider of innovative and secure commercial satellite communications (SATCOM) solutions and the U.S. proxy for Eutelsat Group, and Kymeta Corporation today announced a sea trial of Eutelsat OneWeb low Earth Orbit (LEO) SATCOM service aboard the U.S. Navy USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN-72). The evaluation is showcasing OneWeb Technologies' and Kymeta's innovative satellite communications solutions tailored to meet the rigorous demands of maritime connectivity. Through the evaluation, OneWeb Technologies and Kymeta will showcase their capacity to deliver resilient, high-bandwidth, low-latency SATCOM services within the challenging maritime environment. The trial provides critical insights into the integration of OneWeb Technologies and Kymeta's solutions with existing Navy systems, paving the way for potential future procurement opportunities. [Read more](#)

Comtech Announces Third Quarter Fiscal 2024 Results and Entered into New \$222.0 Million Credit Facility

June 18, 2024 – Comtech announced its third quarter fiscal 2024 financial results in a letter to shareholders which is now posted to the Investor Relations section of Comtech’s website. Investors are invited to access the third quarter fiscal 2024 shareholder letter at comtech.com/investors/. A copy of the letter will also be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission in a Form 8-K. Comtech also announced that on June 17, 2024, the Company entered into a \$222.0 million credit facility with a new syndicate of lenders which is expected to be funded on or around June 18, 2024. The New Credit Facility matures on July 31, 2028, consists of a committed \$162.0 million term loan facility and \$60.0 million revolver loan facility and is expected to have outstanding borrowings at close of approximately \$187.0 million, reflecting \$25.0 million drawn on the revolver. A copy of the credit agreement will be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission in a Form 8-K. [Read more](#)

Eutelsat Group Confirms Participation in Latest Round of Fund-raising by Seraphim Space

June 17, 2024 – Eutelsat Group confirms its participation in Seraphim Space’s second VC fund, SSV II. Eutelsat’s investment aims to foster technological innovation within the space sector, supporting dynamic start-ups in Seraphim’s portfolio. Through this partnership, Eutelsat Group and Seraphim will support the development of advanced capabilities to meet the growing market demand for global connectivity, Earth observation, and advanced data services. The investment underscores Eutelsat Group’s dedication to remaining at the forefront of innovation and supporting emerging technologies that will transform the space industry. SSV II, will have a particular focus on the application of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to space data, in-orbit computing and space-enabled communications. Eutelsat Group and Seraphim Space are eager to begin this promising collaboration, paving the way for new advances in the space domain and beyond. [Read more](#)

Gilat to Acquire Stellar Blu, an IFC Market Leader with a First-to-Market ESA-Based Solution for Commercial Aviation

June 17, 2024 – Gilat Satellite Networks Ltd., a worldwide leader in satellite networking technology, solutions, and services, announced today that it has signed a definitive agreement to acquire Stellar Blu Solutions LLC, which will become a core component of Gilat’s IFC growth strategy. Stellar Blu Solutions is a US-based leading avionics solution provider of next-generation SATCOM terminal solutions. The acquisition is a significant step in Gilat’s initiative to increase its presence in the growing IFC market. Gilat expects its annual revenues from the acquired business to range between \$100 Million to \$150 Million beginning in 2025, based on Stellar Blu’s existing backlog. The acquisition is expected to be accretive on a non GAAP basis starting the second half of 2025. [Read more](#)

mu Space and ITEL Join Forces

June 17, 2024 – In a landmark collaboration, mu Space and Advanced Technology Co., Ltd. ("mu Space") and Interlink Telecom Public Company Limited ("ITEL") have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to explore new opportunities in satellite and telecommunications networks and services. Effective from March 1st, 2024, this MOU sets the stage for combining the expertise and resources of both industry leaders to drive innovation and expand service offerings in Thailand and beyond. mu Space, based in Bangkok, Thailand, is renowned for its contributions to satellite design, manufacturing, operations, and advanced space technology development. The collaboration between mu Space and ITEL is driven by a shared vision of enhancing LEO satellite connectivity and expanding telecom network accessibility. By combining mu Space's satellite technology expertise with ITEL's robust telecom infrastructure, the partnership aims to create a synergistic effect that benefits both companies and their customers. [Read more](#)

Vrio to Offer Project Kuiper Satellite Broadband in 7 South American Countries to Help Bridge the Digital Divide

June 13, 2024 – Vrio Corporation, parent company of DIRECTV Latin America and Sky Brasil, and Project Kuiper, Amazon’s low Earth orbit satellite broadband network, announced a distribution agreement to offer fast, affordable internet connectivity in seven countries in South America. Vrio plans to use Project Kuiper’s network to provide connectivity services to residential customers in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Uruguay, Peru, Ecuador, and Colombia through DIRECTV Latin America and Sky Brasil, in accordance with local regulations. This agreement will bring new affordable, high-speed internet connectivity options to an area with a total population of approximately 383 million people, including approximately 200 million people the World Bank estimates are still not connected to the internet. [Read more](#)

Skyband Selects Hughes JUPITER System to Power Digital Transformation for Enterprises and Governments across Saudi Arabia

June 13, 2024 – Hughes Network Systems, LLC (HUGHES), an EchoStar company, today announced that Luna Space Telecommunications Co. Ltd., a leading Saudi Arabia service provider under the Skyband Holding company, has purchased a JUPITER™ System Gateway as well as 1,200 Hughes JUPITER Terminals to transform its VSAT network. Leveraging the latest JUPITER technology, Skyband can provide customers with higher speeds and throughput, reach even more of the kingdom’s unserved and underserved areas, and introduce a new mobility offering. Skyband provides the latest satellite network infrastructure through multiple hubs to enable the corporate and government sectors in Saudi Arabia to increase their productivity and help achieve their digital transformation goals. By migrating its existing network to the more efficient Hughes network, Skyband will expand into new government, financial, and oil and gas markets and offer new features such as software-defined wide area networking (SD-WAN). [Read more](#)

Hughes Europe Expands into Military, Defence & Government Sectors with Launch of Konnect VHTS Services in Collaboration with Telespazio

June 11, 2024 – Hughes Europe, a subsidiary of Hughes Network Systems, LLC, announces its strategic expansion into the Military, Defence, and Government sectors across pan-European nations. Troy Truman has joined Hughes and will act as the head of this initiative. The initiative will meet the increasing demand for high-speed connectivity and the growing security concerns around Europe's advancing military and governmental requirements for Intelligence Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) and Beyond Visual Line of Sight (BVLoS) connectivity, high data rate requirements of modern operations, and robust managed communication networks. [Read more](#)

Infostellar to Install and Operate a Network of GSaaS Antennas in the APAC Region

June 10, 2024 – Infostellar, a Japan-based Ground-Segment-as-a-Service (GSaaS) provider, is pleased to announce that it will deploy a network of Infostellar-owned antennas focused on serving its global clients’ interests in the Asia Pacific Region. Benefitting from Infostellar’s cloud-based ground station control platform, StellarStation, the APAC ground station network is being rolled out in locations that support a wide range of applications, including maritime awareness, general Earth observation, and surveillance. Locations include Japan, Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Australia and New Zealand and availability is projected for the 2nd half of 2025. [Read more](#)

Telespazio Announces Agreement with Starlink

June 6 2024 – Telespazio, a joint venture between Leonardo (67%) and Thales (33%), one of the world's leading operators in the field of satellite solutions and services, announces an agreement with SpaceX for the commercialization of Starlink services. Starlink is a constellation of satellites designed to provide broadband internet services around the world, particularly in rural areas that are poorly served by other networks. Thanks to this agreement, Telespazio will be able to integrate Starlink into its global hybrid connectivity network, which is made up of satellite and terrestrial

solutions and can guarantee reliable and resilient (fixed and mobile) communications services, with global coverage. [Read more](#)

Speedcast Inaugurates New Teleport Facility Serving as LATAM Gateway for Eutelsat OneWeb

June 5, 2024 – Speedcast, a leading communications and IT services provider, hosted an inaugural event today to celebrate the new purpose-built teleport facility in Cali, Colombia that now serves as the ground infrastructure gateway in Latin America for Eutelsat OneWeb. Speedcast secured a long-term agreement with Eutelsat OneWeb to develop and operate the facility, located in Zonamerica, a free-trade zone in Colombia to support services for the company’s low Earth orbit (LEO) constellation. The agreement between Eutelsat OneWeb and Speedcast’s local entity, Speedcast Free Zone Colombia SAS, began in January 2022, and final antenna installations were completed in late 2023, with the site fully operational in December. The facility includes 15 antennae critical to supporting OneWeb LEO services for customers. The facility also holds a Tier 4 Data Center classification, which is recognized as the best-performing level based on internationally standardized rankings that indicate the reliability of data center infrastructure. The unique location provides unrestricted line of sight for tracking spacecraft across the sky, as well as redundant power and connection with the main telecom companies of the region. [Read more](#)

XipLink Announces LEO Enhancement Features for Multi-Orbit Networks

June 5, 2024 – XipLink Inc., the technology leader in optimized, secure and intelligent multi-orbit SD-WAN solution for hybrid networking, is pleased to announce new features to further enhance its industry leading XipOS SD-WAN functionality. XipOS delivers an improved end user Quality of Experience while addressing several challenges in the satellite, cellular and wireless markets including offloading modems from high session counts, aiding performance for high latency connections with GEO satellites, providing consistent cellular data services and utilizing available bandwidth at the highest possible capacity. XipOS software also offers hybrid aggregation of GEO, MEO, LEO & terrestrial connections to provide future-proofed enhanced services including security and increased bandwidth scaling for a seamless multi-orbit SD-WAN solution. [Read more](#)

Iridium Awarded Five-Year, \$94 Million Contract by Space Systems Command

June 4, 2024 – Iridium Communications Inc., a leading provider of global voice and data satellite communications, today announced it has been awarded a new five-year contract by the United States Space Force's Space Systems Command's Commercial Space Office (COMSO) for Enhanced Mobile Satellite Services (EMSS) capabilities and security sustainment services (ECS3). In support of the Iridium EMSS program, the ECS3 contract will ensure continued optimal operations of the EMSS Service Center in support of critical U.S. government applications. The value of the contract is approximately \$94 million with a potential total value of \$103 million, based on future surge requirements. [Read more](#)

UZ-SAT and SES to Provide Satellite Capacity to Enable Critical Communications in Uzbekistan

June 3, 2024 – SES, a world-leading satellite operator, and UZ-SAT, the Republic of Uzbekistan’s pioneering National Broadband Satellite Service Provider, are signing an agreement to deliver unparalleled connectivity services throughout Uzbekistan via SES’s GEO satellite, NSS-12. This collaboration aims to support mobile backhaul services across the nation. Under this agreement, UZ-SAT will leverage SES’ reliable satellite communications to bridge the digital divide, particularly in remote and rural regions underserved by existing terrestrial networks. This initiative is set to drive digital inclusion, ensuring that even the most isolated communities benefit from robust and consistent connectivity. [Read more](#)

Speedcast Launches New Cybersecurity Application with Cydome

June 3, 2024 – Speedcast, a leading communications and IT services provider, announced the launch of a new cybersecurity application by Cydome on its SIGMA network management platform. It

addresses the explosive surge in cybersecurity threats to commercial maritime, yachting, offshore energy and port operations. The solution offers a simplified and streamlined approach to navigating the urgent need to comply with a U.S. Presidential Executive Order requiring mandatory reporting of cyber incidents, along with new International Association of Classification Societies (IACS) regulations beginning in July 2024, and the European Union's Network and Information Security Directive (NIS2) beginning in October 2024. [Read more](#)

Eutelsat Group Achieves Platinum Score in Space Sustainability Rating

June 3, 2024 – Eutelsat Group has announced that its first generation of more than 600 satellites in Low Earth Orbit (LEO) has achieved a platinum rating in the Space Sustainability Rating (SSR), marking a significant recognition of the company's commitment to responsible space utilization. First imagined at the World Economic Forum (WEF), the rating's aim is to reduce the creation of space debris, limit the risk of satellite collisions, and help ensure space operations are managed safely and sustainably. [Read more](#)

LAUNCH / SPACE

Thales Alenia Space Reveals Results of ASCEND Feasibility Study on Space Data Centers

June 27, 2024 – Thales Alenia Space announced the promising results of the ASCEND (Advanced Space Cloud for European Net zero emission and Data sovereignty) feasibility study. Launched in 2023 and funded by the European Commission under the Horizon Europe program, this initiative aims to study the feasibility of space-based data centers to work toward the EU Green Deal's objective of net-zero carbon by 2050 and transform the European space and digital ecosystem. For this study, Thales Alenia Space coordinated a European consortium of partners with complementary expertise in environmental aspects (Carbone 4, VITO), cloud computing (Orange Business, CloudFerro, Hewlett Packard Enterprise), launchers (ArianeGroup), and orbital systems (German space agency DLR, Airbus Defence & Space, and Thales Alenia Space). [Read more](#)

ispace RESILIENCE Lunar Lander Successfully Achieves Testing Milestone in Preparation for Mission 2

June 27, 2024 – ispace, inc. (ispace), a global lunar exploration company, announced today that the flight model of its HAKUTO-R Mission 2 RESILIENCE lunar lander has successfully completed thermal vacuum testing and remains on schedule for a winter 2024 launch. The testing was completed at the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) Tsukuba Space Center in Tsukuba, Japan, where the agency operates a large testing facility. The flight model was assembled at the facility and all payloads or testing models were integrated into the lunar lander before testing began. [Read more](#)

SSC and Firefly to Launch Satellites from Esrange

June 27, 2024 – Swedish Space Corporation (SSC) and U.S. space transportation company Firefly Aerospace have signed a collaborative agreement to jointly launch satellites with Firefly's Alpha rocket from the newly inaugurated spaceport at Esrange Space Center in Sweden, starting in 2026. Together, Firefly and SSC are establishing an orbital launch service in Europe with a flight-proven launch vehicle, supporting commercial, civil, and defense customers. Owned and operated by SSC, Esrange has been operational since 1966, primarily supporting sounding rocket launches for microgravity and atmospheric research. Newly expanded infrastructure at Esrange now supports satellite launches, making it a significant contribution to filling the demands for orbital launch capabilities in Europe. [Read more](#)

Intelsat, Starfish Space Reach Deal for Satellite Servicing Mission

June 26, 2024 – Intelsat, operator of the world's largest integrated satellite and terrestrial network, signed a contract for a Starfish Otter servicing vehicle to provide life extension services to an Intelsat

geostationary satellite, beginning in 2026. This landmark agreement reinforces Intelsat's commitment to utilizing satellite servicing technologies to maximize the value its satellites can provide to customers and will mark Starfish's first mission to provide services to a commercial satellite operator with Otter. [Read more](#)

Terran Orbital and Hanwha Systems Sign Memorandum of Understanding

June 26, 2024 – Terran Orbital Corporation, a global leader in satellite-based solutions primarily serving the aerospace and defense industries, announced the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Hanwha Systems. This MOU solidifies their strategic partnership, marking a significant milestone in their collaborative efforts to develop state-of-the-art solar and satellite solutions through Hanwha Systems and its subsidiary, Flexell Space. This strategic partnership aims to bolster the defense capabilities of both the United States and South Korea by providing cutting-edge solutions to the warfighter and establishing a robust supply base. As part of this collaboration, Terran Orbital and Hanwha Systems will work together on satellite manufacturing, including solar cells, and cooperate in the defense industry in both the US and South Korea. This strategic move will enable both companies to co-create joint solutions tailored for government bids, thereby advancing their mission objectives. [Read more](#)

Sidus Space and NamaSys Bahrain Sign MOU to Establish "Sidus Arabia" JV Headquartered in Saudi Arabia to Develop a State-of-the-Art 3D Printing Satellite Manufacturing Facility

June 25, 2024 - Sidus Space, Inc., a provider of end-to-end precision space infrastructure solutions that include satellite data as a service on its proprietary orbiting platform, announced today the execution of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) outlining its collaboration with NamaSys, a multi discipline Technology & Electronic Security Consultancy for the establishment of a joint venture with a mission to build, own and operate a satellite manufacturing, production, assembly and integration facility in the Middle East supporting Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries and beyond. The MOU outlines that the parties intend to serve and fulfill the needs and requirements of government and private clients across the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region while sharing a unified mission of fostering science and technology development. With multiple value propositions, the initial scope of this rewarding collaboration will center attention on exploring opportunities for sustained access to space for the GCC countries through the establishment of satellite manufacturing and space-based data collection. [Read more](#)

PLD Space Invests 10 Million Euros in MIURA 5 Launch Complex in French Guiana

June 24, 2024 – The launcher company PLD Space has announced today an investment of 10 million euros in MIURA 5 Launch Complex at Guiana Space Center (CSG), Europe's spaceport in Kourou (French Guiana), owned by the French Space Agency (CNES) and the European Space Agency (ESA). With the first launch of its rocket at the end of 2025, PLD Space will become the first non-institutional launch operator that will go to orbit from this historical base. PLD Space has always been committed to the CNES/CSG as the main site for MIURA 5 recurrent launches because is the most competitive launch base in Europe. Kourou is the unique base in Europe with operational experience where MIURA 5 can achieve any orbit. [Read more](#)

ASTRA 1P Communications Satellite Successfully Launched

June 21, 2024 – ASTRA 1P communications satellite has successfully been launched by a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket from Cape Canaveral in Florida. As prime contractor for ASTRA 1P, Thales Alenia Space is responsible for the satellite's design, manufacture and assembly, integration and testing (AIT), as well as oversight of the launch campaign. Based on Thales Alenia Space's powerful Spacebus NEO platform, featuring all-electric propulsion, ASTRA 1P will enable private and public broadcasters across Europe to deliver content with the highest picture quality. Ordered by SES, ASTRA 1P will join the company's satellite fleet currently serving 119 million TV homes in Europe and will help ensure continuity of SES services until 2040. [Read more](#)

Rocket Lab Successfully Launches 50th Electron Mission, Deploys Satellites for Kinéis

June 20, 2024 – Rocket Lab USA, Inc. today successfully launched its 50th Electron mission, deploying satellites for French Internet-of-Things (IoT) company Kinéis. Electron has reached the milestone of 50 launches faster than any commercially developed rocket in history. The mission was the first of five dedicated Electron launches for Kinéis, a company backed by private and public investors including the French government’s space agency CNES (Centre National d’Études Spatiales) and CLS (Collecte Localisation Satellites), an international space-based solutions provider, to improve global IoT connectivity. The Kinéis constellation is designed to make it possible to connect and locate any connected object anywhere in the world, enabling data transmission to users in near-real time, at low bit rates and with very low energy consumption. By enabling internet connection to the Earth’s most remote locations, Kinéis constellation can support forest fire detection, water resource management, infrastructure and energy network monitoring, transport and logistics tracking, and much more. [Read more](#)

NEC and Ursa Space Collaborate on Satellite Image Analysis Services Using One of the World’s Largest Virtual Constellations

June 20, 2024 – NEC Corporation and Ursa Space Systems Inc. (Ursa Space) have agreed to collaborate on satellite image data analysis services. By combining services and technologies, the two companies will provide solutions for various applications for enterprises. In recent years, the use of satellite image data has been rapidly expanding for various applications, including disaster prevention, infrastructure management, resource exploration, agriculture, and environmental monitoring. Ursa Space has also established a “virtual constellation” consisting of several hundred SAR and optical satellites in collaboration with satellite operating companies, and provides a global one-stop analysis service for image data acquired by multiple satellites. [Read more](#)

Exolaunch Integrates 42 Satellites for SpaceX’s Transporter-11 Rideshare Mission

June 18, 2024 – Exolaunch, a global leader in launch mission management, integration, and satellite deployment services, today announced the company has successfully integrated its customer satellites for the upcoming Transporter-11 Rideshare mission with SpaceX. The mission is expected to be Exolaunch’s largest mission of 2024 thus far, servicing 42 small satellites for 23 global customers. Scheduled to lift off later this summer, the Transporter-11 Rideshare mission will launch on a SpaceX Falcon 9 from Vandenberg Space Force Base in California. This mission signifies Exolaunch’s ongoing commitment to advancing global access to space and marks the company’s participation in all 11 Transporter missions to date since the program’s inception. [Read more](#)

Lockheed Martin Selected To Develop Next Generation Weather Satellite Constellation

June 18, 2024 – NASA has selected Lockheed Martin to develop and build the nation’s next generation weather satellite constellation, Geostationary Extended Observations (GeoXO), for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The baseline contract is for three spacecraft with options for four additional spacecraft. The total estimated value of the contract including options is \$2.27 billion. The GeoXO mission will continue and expand upon critical observations of weather provided by the Lockheed Martin-built GOES-R Series geostationary satellites to include new observations of our oceans and air pollution. GeoXO’s new capabilities will deliver more accurate weather forecasting and address emerging environmental issues and challenges that threaten our economy and safety. GeoXO and the nation’s weather satellites are vital infrastructure for national resilience. [Read more](#)

Historic Approach to Space Debris: Astroscale’s ADRAS-J Closes in by 50 Meters

June 14, 2024 – Astroscale Japan Inc. (“Astroscale Japan”), a subsidiary of Astroscale Holdings Inc. (“Astroscale”), a market leader in satellite servicing and long-term orbital sustainability across all orbits, announced that its commercial debris inspection demonstration satellite, Active Debris Removal by Astroscale-Japan (ADRAS-J), has achieved another unprecedented milestone for a

commercial company. ADRAS-J successfully completed the safe and controlled approach to an unprepared space debris object – a rocket upper stage – to a relative distance of approximately 50 meters, collecting further images and data while maintaining a controlled fixed point relative position from the upper stage. This second image released from the mission, taken in May, follows the first image released on April 26, captured from several hundred meters behind the debris. [Read more](#)

Ovzon 3 Satellite Reaches Geostationary Orbit; Successfully Concludes Initial Tests

June 14, 2024 – Ovzon's proprietary satellite Ovzon 3 has now, after a five-month journey in space, reached its orbital position in the geostationary arc. Initial tests have been conducted by the manufacturing partner Maxar, and the satellite, including the Ovzon On-Board-Processor, will soon be handed over to Ovzon for further in-orbit testing. The satellite is expected to enter commercial service mid-year 2024; all according to plan. Earlier in the second quarter 2024, Ovzon announced two new SATCOM-as-a-Service offerings for the Ovzon 3 satellite, tailored to meet customers' needs for performance, mobility, and resiliency. The new services, Ovzon Pegasus and Ovzon Orion, are based on the unique technology and capabilities of the Ovzon 3 satellite and the Ovzon On-Board-Processor. [Read more](#)

Yahsat Contracts Airbus for the Construction of Al Yah 4 and Al Yah 5 Satellites

June 10, 2024 – Al Yah Satellite Communications Company PJSC (Yahsat), the UAE's flagship satellite solutions provider announced today that it has contracted Airbus Defence and Space, a leading satellite manufacturer, for its new geostationary telecommunications satellites, Al Yah 4 ("AY4") and Al Yah 5 ("AY5"). The significant step follows the signing of an Authorisation-to-Proceed with Airbus in Q2 2023 to commence initial activities in relation to the AY4 and AY5 satellite programme. Airbus will design and build the AY4 and AY5 satellites based on the Eurostar Neo platform, with each having flexible payloads and benefitting from the strong heritage of the Eurostar family. The flexible multi-band payloads can be fully reconfigured while in orbit, capable of adjusting the coverage area, capacity and frequency "on the fly" to meet evolving mission scenarios. [Read more](#)

Rocket Lab Successfully Completes Second Launch for NASA Climate Science Mission

June 5, 2024 – Rocket Lab USA, Inc., a global leader in launch services and space systems, today successfully completed the second of two Electron launches for NASA's PREFIRE (Polar Radiant Energy in the Far-InfraRed Experiment) climate change-focused mission, completing a turnaround of two launches within eleven days. With both satellites now in orbit, they will crisscross the Arctic and Antarctic to study heat lost to space from the Earth's polar regions. Heat loss measurements collected by the PREFIRE mission will help to improve climate and ice-loss models to better predict Earth's ice, sea level, and weather changes. The mission is expected to operate for 10 months. [Read more](#)

SES Space & Defense Demonstrates First Multi-orbit, Multi-band Commercial LEO Relay

June 5, 2024 – SES Space & Defense, a wholly-owned subsidiary of SES, today announced the successful demonstration of the first multi-orbit, multi-band commercial space relay service in support of the NASA Communications Services Project (CSP). To demonstrate data relay services, SES Space & Defense partnered with Planet Labs (Planet), the leading provider of global daily Earth data using SES's O3b mPOWER satellite constellation in Medium Earth Orbit (MEO) and Planet's Low Earth Orbit (LEO) flight-representative terminal. SES Space & Defense and Planet demonstrated a stable data link, validating the hardware, data flow and the end-to-end system performance as well as successfully reduced flight hardware and services risk. Throughout the testing process, the performance of Planet's flight modem correlated with expectations, achieving link budgets that consistently aligned with predicted results. [Read more](#)

NTT DOCOMO and Space Compass Partners with Airbus on HAPS

June 3, 2024 – A consortium of Japanese businesses ("the Japanese Consortium") led by NTT DOCOMO, Inc. ("NTT DOCOMO") and Space Compass Corporation ("Space Compass"), together with

Mizuho Bank Limited and the Development Bank of Japan Inc., has committed to invest USD\$100m in AALTO HAPS Limited (“AALTO”), which manufactures and operates the stratospheric, solar-powered Zephyr High Altitude Platform Station (HAPS). The investment will be made through the Japanese Consortium’s investment vehicle, HAPS JAPAN Corporation. This investment marks the beginning of a strategic alliance to commercialise connectivity and earth observation services using HAPS in Japan and across Asia. It will also support the industrial and commercial roadmap for AALTO’s services, targeting launch in Japan and a global entry-into-service in 2026. [Read more](#)

Sateliot to Launch Four Satellites with SpaceX in July to Enter Commercial Phase

June 1, 2024 – Sateliot will launch four satellites from its 5G-IoT constellation on SpaceX's Transporter-11 mission. The launch is scheduled for July, and the satellites will fly aboard a Falcon 9 rocket from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California, USA. The company, which is deploying the first low-Earth orbit satellite constellation with 5G standards for IoT and 100% global coverage, will commence its commercial phase with these satellites. It has already secured €200 million in recurring revenue contracts from over 400 clients in 50 countries worldwide. [Read more](#)

EXECUTIVE MOVES

Kratos Defense & Security Solutions Welcomes Claire Burghoff as Vice President of Government Affairs & Corporate Communications

June 24, 2024 – Kratos Defense & Security Solutions, Inc., a technology company in Defense, National Security and Global Markets, today announced the addition of Claire Burghoff to its corporate team as the Vice President of Government Affairs & Corporate Communications. In this role, Claire will lead corporate communications for Kratos and will support the company's strategic initiatives in government affairs, leveraging her extensive experience and ability to marry public relations strategies with government affairs initiatives to communicate the value of Kratos’ low-cost, high-performance technology, solutions, and breakthroughs to national defense and governmental leaders. [Read more](#)

Kongsberg NanoAvionics Appoints New CEO

June 10, 2024 – Smallsat mission integrator and bus manufacturer Kongsberg NanoAvionics (“NanoAvionics”) has appointed Atle Wøllo as its new CEO. Wøllo is replacing Žilvinas Kvedaravičius, who became interim CEO last year, following the departure of co-founder and former CEO Vytenis J. Buzas in 2023. Wøllo, with educational background in business administration and electronic engineering, comes from Kongsberg Defence & Aerospace where most recently, and prior to this latest appointment, he held the position as senior vice president special programs, and was president of Kongsberg Aviation Maintenance Services division. [Read more](#)

REPORTS

New WTA Report Explores How the Teleport Business Model is Adapting to Work with NGSOs and Gain Competitive Advantage

June 11, 2024 – The World Teleport Association (WTA) released The Year of the NGSOs, a new research report that explores how the teleport business model will continue to adapt to a market of verticalized, multi-orbit connectivity and the technology innovations that can extend their competitive advantage in a changing ecosystem. [Read more](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

New Horizons in Air and Space Law: Treaties, Technologies, and Tomorrow’s Challenges

August 1-2, Singapore, <https://law.nus.edu.sg/trail/airspacelaw-mcqjill-iasl-home/>

SmallSat 2024, August 3-8, Logan, UT, USA, <https://smallsat.org/>

PTC'DC

5-6 September, Washington D.C., USA,

https://www.ptc.org/ptcdc?utm_source=partner&utm_medium=banner&utm_id=apsc

PTC'DC is PTC's new mid-year conference – bringing together government officials, regulators, private equity firms, policy makers, senior industry leaders, and PTC Members in an exclusive environment. Join PTC for insightful discussions, presentations, and vital dialogue on the future of digital infrastructure.

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://apscsat.com/>

EDITORIALS AND INQUIRIES

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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.apsc.or.kr.