



Director's Report

November 6, 2007

The Satellite Industry Association (SIA) Director's Report is a weekly executive capsule covering current satellite industry news and events. See the bottom of page for additional information.

Recent News

The Odyssey Launch Platform and the Sea Launch Commander have departed Sea Launch Home Port, for the launch of the Thuraya-3 satellite. The vessels are sailing to the equatorial launch site at 154 degrees West Longitude, in preparation for Sea Launch's 25th mission. When the vessels arrive, the team will ballast the platform to launch depth and perform a final series of tests on the launch system and the spacecraft. [Link to additional information](#)

EchoStar Communications has obtained approval from Taiwan's National Communications Commission (NCC) to operate high-definition satellite broadcast TV in the Taiwan market. The company's Taiwan branch office announced the regulatory victory this week. Story Courtesy of SkyREPORT

The Boeing Company and its TEAM TSAT partners have successfully demonstrated the "one-button" start-up feature of its U.S. ground station, an essential element of the companies' Transformational Satellite Communications System (TSAT) offering.

The feature allows a ground station technician or a remote command center operator to use one button on a control panel to go from a full "off" condition to full communications operation within minutes, even under adverse operating conditions. [Link to additional information](#)

DataPath, Inc. has been awarded \$2.9 million to upgrade and enhance the flexibility of DataPath Satellite Transportable Terminals (STTs) used in the U.S. Marine Corps' Support Wide Area Network (SWAN) programs. In addition, DataPath's experienced support personnel will provide onsite services including field engineering and training to Marine units operating the STTs. The total contract value could increase to up to \$10.7 million if all options are exercised. [Link to additional information](#)

Iridium® Satellite's military sector business continues to show outstanding growth with cumulative Department of Defense (DoD) subscribers reaching 31,000. Military traffic through Iridium's satellite network is up more than nine percent (an increase of almost ten percent over last year). This growth is 300 percent more than what Iridium planned for this market segment at the outset of the year.

[Link to additional information](#)

The modernized Global Positioning System Block IIR (GPS IIR-M) satellite, recently launched from Cape Canaveral, has been declared fully operational for military and civilian navigation users around the globe, following a successful on-orbit checkout by a combined U.S. Air Force/**Lockheed Martin** team. The satellite, designated GPS IIR-17M, is the fourth in a series of eight Block IIR-M satellites that bring new capabilities to military and civilian users of the GPS system. [Link to additional information](#)

XTAR, LLC, a joint venture between **Loral Space & Communications** and HISDESAT, announced that it has received a contract from the U.S. General Services Administration, Federal Acquisition Service for Information Technology Equipment, Software, and Services (FSC Group 70). The contract has an unlimited spending ceiling and may be used by any federal, state or local agency to acquire XTAR's high-powered X-band bandwidth and services. [Link to additional information](#)

TerreStar Networks Inc. has chosen Accenture to help build North America's first all Internet Protocol-based (IP) fourth-generation (4G) wireless communications network, which will provide voice, data and streamed media to users at data rates higher than those of existing wireless communications networks. Financial terms of the deal were not disclosed. [Link to additional information](#)

Multiband, **DIRECTV**'s largest master system operator (MSO) for multiple dwelling units, unveiled plans this week to acquire DirecTECH, a Delaware-based DIRECTV home satellite provider. Financial terms of the deal were not disclosed. Story Courtesy of SkyREPORT

Upcoming Meetings and Events

11 November 2007 – GVF EMEX Symposium – Reno, Nevada, www.gvf.org

12-13 November 2007 - Reach to Space Conference - GW University, Washington, DC
www.reachtospace.org

13-15 November 2007 – DOD SATCOM USERS WORKSHOP - The Renaissance Washington, DC Hotel www.dodsatcom.com

30 November 2007, 6 December 2007, 24 January 2008, 26 February, 2008 – Washington Space Business Roundtable-The University Club, Washington, DC. www.wsbr.org

26-28 February 2008 – SATELLITE 2008 - Washington Convention Center, Washington, DC
www.satellite2008.com

27-29 February 2009 – International Wireless Communications Expo - Las Vegas Convention Center, Las Vegas, Nevada, www.iwceexpo.com

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