

President's Report

SIA'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Featuring the latest Association and Member News and Industry Events

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SIA News and Headlines

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SIA APPLAUDS FCC CHAIRMAN'S RECOGNITION OF GENERATIONAL AND REVOLUTIONARY CHANGES IN COMMERCIAL SPACE



- FCC Commits to Streamlining Regulations to Lower the Cost of Small Satellites
- Chairman Wishes to Empower Satellite Industry to help Bridge the Digital Divide in America

On July 9th, SIA commended Federal Telecommunications Commission (FCC) Chairman Ajit Pai for his commitment to streamline the regulatory processes to make it easier and cheaper to license small satellites and to empower satellite companies who are working to bridge the digital divide in America with broadband services. This follows remarks made by Chairman Pai at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Policy Roundtable on Small Satellite Integration held earlier today in Washington, D.C. During his remarks, Chairman Pai recognized the generational and revolutionary changes currently taking place in the space industry and also announced plans for the Commission later this week, to release a draft order designed to streamline regulations and lower the cost of licensing small satellites. Chairman Pai stated, "We now stand on the cusp of unprecedented opportunity for the commercial space sector—and ultimately for American consumers, who will be the chief beneficiaries if the industry can succeed in space. The FCC has been and will continue to be a willing partner as we all seek to transform this potential into reality."

"SIA commends FCC Chairman Pai and the FCC for their plans to streamline the licensing of small satellites and for their continued recognition of the role satellite broadband will play in bridging the digital divide in America," said Tom Stroup, President of SIA. "Thanks to rapid growth and innovation, we truly are seeing a revolution in the satellite industry and streamlining the licensing regime governing the industry can only serve and encourage continued innovation. We look forward to seeing the text of the new order and to working with the Chairman and his team at the Commission in helping ensure continued American innovation and leadership in the commercial satellite and space industries."

For a copy of FCC Chairman Pai's speech, please click [HERE](#).

SIA APPLAUDS FCC BROADBAND CONNECTED CARE PROPOSAL

On July 15th, SIA applauded the Federal Telecommunications Commission (FCC) proposal to establish a connected care pilot program that would provide an 85% discount on connectivity for broadband-enabled telehealth services that connect patients directly to their doctors. The proposed three-year pilot would bring telehealth services and digital connectivity to low-income patients, veterans and would also target tribal lands and rural areas lacking adequate connectivity.

The Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) adopted by the Commission seeks comment on testing a new program, using the FCC's existing Rural Health Care Program authority, that would defray the costs of purchasing broadband Internet access service necessary for providing connected care services directly to low-income patients and veterans.

"Bridging the digital divide and ensuring all Americans have access to broadband connectivity is about more than just the convenience of streaming entertainment or a requirement for business, government and education – connectivity is fast becoming an essential way of providing high quality medical care," said Tom Stroup, President of the Satellite Industry Association. "In a recent think tank meeting organized by the FCC and the National Cancer Institute, I discussed how satellite broadband can provide connectivity which is so important in the treatment of cancer patients. SIA applauds the FCC for this new telehealth proposal and we look forward to working with the Commission on this and other initiatives aimed at helping ensure all Americans have access to broadband and quality connected health care."

For more information including a link to the FCC press release, please visit the SIA News Page [HERE](#).

SIA FILES REPLY TO THE FCC IN RESPONSE TO P2MP COMMENTS REGARDING THEIR POTENTIAL USE OF C-BAND

On July 18th, SIA filed reply comments to the FCC regarding comments submitted by the Wireless Internet Service Providers Association, Dynamic Spectrum Alliance, Google LLC, and Open Technology Institute at New America (collectively, the "P2MP Comments"). In their Notice, the FCC requested input focused on relative interference protection rights of satellite operators and earth station operators, whether the Commission has authority to modify FSS operators' authorizations and earth station operators' registrations and whether the Commission has authority to conduct a C-band incentive auction. The P2MP Comments, in contrast, discuss in large part potential P2MP operations in the C-band and the merits of the Commission's full-band, full-arc policy. These topics, while relevant to subjects identified in the earlier Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, are not material to the issues set forth in the Notice. Accordingly, the P2MP Comments should be disregarded or otherwise rejected as non-responsive. To view a copy of the filing, please click [HERE](#).

SIA MEETS WITH FCC INTERNATIONAL BUREAU REGARDING PROPOSED 2019 FEE INCREASES FOR SPACE AND EARTH STATIONS

On July 11th, representatives of SIA met with members of the International Bureau and Office of the Managing Director to discuss the assessment and collection of proposed Space and Earth Station Regulatory Fees for fiscal year 2019. SIA requested clarification from the Commission staff regarding proposed increases in the fee schedule for Fiscal Year 2019 for geostationary space stations, non-geostationary space stations, and earth stations. SIA stated that the increases are substantial and have not been budgeted for by member companies and requested an explanation of the proposed fee increases. SIA also noted that regardless of the driver of the fee increases, increases of this magnitude are unduly burdensome for satellite operators – some of whom already pay millions annually in regulatory fees. SIA argued that a phase-in of such unusually large fee increases would be in the public interest, consistent with Commission precedent, and would greatly ease budgetary stress on satellite service companies. To view a copy of the ex-parte filing, please click [HERE](#).

SIA FILES ADDITIONAL COMMENTS WITH THE FCC REGARDING EXPANDING THE USE OF C-BAND SPECTRUM

On July 3rd, SIA filed comments with the FCC regarding the International Bureau and Wireless Telecommunications Bureau request for additional comment in the Commission's Expanding Flexible Use of the 3.7-4.2 GHz Band proceeding. In the filing, SIA stated that a determination that space station operators lack enforceable rights to transmit free from interference would undermine decades of Commission precedent recognizing the value of, and seeking to promote, satellite services and threatens to stifle the deployment and provision of satellite services. The Commission should remain cognizant of the tremendous value of satellite services as it continues to consider how best to accommodate terrestrial wireless services in the 3.7-4.2 GHz band. SIA respectfully requested that the Commission consider the legal issues presented in the recent Public Notice—as well as the legal and policy issues presented by the Expanding Flexible Use of the 3.7 to 4.2 GHz Band proceeding. To view a complete copy of the filing, please click [HERE](#).

Comtech EF Data Joins SIA



On July 29th, SIA announced that Comtech EF Data Corp. (Comtech EF Data), a leading provider of satellite communications ground equipment focused on bandwidth efficiency and link optimization, had joined the Association. The Company's high-performance ground solutions, including VSAT networking platforms, satellite modems and RF products, are deployed globally to support mission-critical applications for government, mobile backhaul, enterprise and mobility customers. Comtech EF Data is the 14th new member to join SIA in the past 10 months. For further details regarding SIA's newest member, please see the SIA News page [HERE](#). For further information regarding membership, please click [HERE](#).

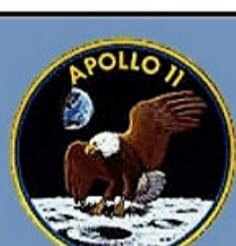
For a complete recap of the past month's SIA News and filings, please visit the [SIA News Page](#).

Additional Policy and Regulatory News

FCC Commissioner Starks Hails the Potential of Satellite Broadband in Solving the Problem of Internet Inequality in America

On July 25th, FCC Commissioner Geoffrey Starks posted a guest column in the Orlando Sentinel celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing while addressing the digital divide in America, something he refers to as "Internet inequality". At a time when many describe today as the Golden Age of Space Exploration, the Commissioner states that, "at least 21 million Americans lack access to home broadband, a necessity in today's world." He goes on to say that satellite broadband is being revitalized and it holds the key to addressing this inequality which in his words is a problem that needs to be addressed – now.

From a regulatory perspective the Commissioner sees an opportunity. "The coming satellite broadband surge challenges us to rethink our policies... We must adopt policies that encourage investment in new networks and leave room for new competitive players and new services." Commissioner Starks concludes by stating, "the Commission should do its part to fulfill the promise of this new space age and ensure that its policies are even-handed and generate solutions, not problems." To read the Commissioner's column, please click on the link [HERE](#).



- SIA Members Celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Apollo 11
- Visit the SIA Members News Page for Further Details

SIA Member News

[\(click HERE for the Member News Page\)](#)

ONEWEB OFFICIALLY OPENS ITS HIGH SPEED HIGH VOLUME SATELLITE MANUFACTURING FACILITY ON THE FLORIDA SPACECOAST



On July 22nd, OneWeb Satellites – a joint venture of OneWeb and Airbus – officially announced the opening of its high-volume, high-speed advanced satellite production facility in Florida. The OneWeb Satellites facility employs industrial-scale mass production techniques for satellites, enabling dramatically reduced costs and production times. SIA President Tom Stroup plus several government officials including U.S. Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross, U.S. Senator Rick Scott, U.S. Rep. Bill Posey, FCC Chairman Ajit Pai, Assistant Secretary of State for Economic and Business Affairs Manisha Singh joined OneWeb personnel and business and community leaders in Merritt Island, FL for the official opening. For more details, please see the SIA Member News page [HERE](#). (Photo credit: OneWeb.com)

SIA MEMBER MONTHLY NEWS HEADLINES

[\(Click HERE for all the details\)](#)

- SIA Members Maxar, Hawkeye 360, Planet and Spire Global File Comments with Commerce Department Regarding Proposed Changes to Remote Sensing Regulations
- Lockheed Martin Announces that Second GPS III Satellite SV-02 is Ready for Launch and the Manufacturing of the Third GPS III Satellite SV-03 is Now Complete
- OneWeb Successfully Tests First Six LEO Broadband Satellites
- Telesat Announces Partnership Agreement with the Government of Canada for the Development of its LEO Satellite Broadband Constellation Worth Up to \$1.2 Billion CAD
- Planet Launches Planet BaseMaps High Resolution Imaging Product
- Viasat Awarded NASPO Contract to Provide Satellite Internet Services
- Hughes Awarded US Army SATCOM Services Contract
- Inmarsat Hails FAA ADS-C Commitment for Aircraft Surveillance
- 50th Anniversary of Apollo 11 Celebrated by SIA Members Including Boeing, Intelsat, Lockheed Martin, Maxar and Planet

For more details on these and other stories, visit the SIA Member News Page [HERE](#).

SIA Organized Events and Calendar

UPCOMING SIA EVENTS - SIA will organize or host the following SIA Member and Industry Events:

1. 2019 SIA DoD Commercial SATCOM Workshop - Hyatt Regency Crystal City, Arlington, VA Dec 17th-19th. This Workshop is one of the year's most anticipated satellite industry events as it is the industry's opportunity to exhibit their satellite-based solutions as they join U.S. DoD Combatant Commands and Agency decision makers, participants and speakers. To learn more about exhibiting or sponsorships for this year's Workshop, please contact SIA Sr. Director of Operations and Events Jennifer Williams at jwilliams@sia.org.

For a list of Association and industry events, please see the SIA Event Calendar below or click on the Industry Calendar [HERE](#).

Calendar of 2019 SIA Featured Industry Events

- SIA AND MEMBER SPEAKERS - Satellite Innovation 2019 - Oct 7th-10th in Silicon Valley, Mountain View, CA
- SIA WORKSHOP - 2019 DoD Commercial SATCOM Workshop - December 17th-19th at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City, Arlington, VA

For a list of ALL upcoming industry conferences, tradeshows, and events - please click [HERE](#) to visit the SIA President's report Event Calendar page.



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