

A monthly round-up of space industry developments for the information of our clients and friends.

Space Business Review

August Satellite Orders

On August 13, **Space-Communication Ltd** (Spacecom) announced that it signed an agreement with **JSC "Academician M.F. Reshetnev" Information Satellite Systems** (ISS – formerly NPO-PM) to build and launch the **Amos-5** communications satellite. The spacecraft will provide C-band coverage over Africa and Ku-band steerable beams over Africa, the Middle East and Europe. Amos-5 is scheduled for launch in 2010 and will have a design life of 15 years. On August 21, **Orbital Sciences Corporation** announced that it has been selected by **Intelsat Ltd.** to build the **Intelsat-18** (IS-18) satellite, based on its **STAR-2** platform. The spacecraft will be equipped with 24 C-band transponders to cover the Northern and Southern hemispheres and 12 Ku-band transponders to provide communications services to the U.S., French Polynesia, Australia, New Caledonia and other Pacific islands from the 180°EL orbital location. **Inmarsat plc** announced on August 22 that it has signed an authorization to proceed with **Thales Alenia Space** for the development of the **EuropaSat** spacecraft. Based on Thales' **Spacebus 4000C3** platform, the satellite payload will generate 9 dual polarization S-band user spot beams operating at 2 GHz to provide mobile broadcast and two-way communications services throughout Europe from the 31°EL orbital location. EuropaSat is scheduled for launch in early 2009 by **International Launch Services** on a **Proton Breeze M** rocket. The EuropaSat program is subject to a favorable outcome of Inmarsat's application under the European S-band Application Process.

Yahsat Concludes Debt Financing

On August 8, **Al Yah Satellite Communications Company PJSC** (Yahsat), a wholly-owned subsidiary of **Mubadala**, the Abu Dhabi sovereign wealth fund, announced that it has secured \$1.2bn in debt financing to fund the development, construction and launch of its **Yahsat 1A** and **1B** satellites, currently being built by **EADS Astrium** and **Thales Alenia Space** and scheduled for delivery in late 2010 and early 2011. The 14-year non-recourse debt facility consists of a \$1.01bn term loan, a \$100m standby facility and an \$80m reserve letter of credit. Fourteen banks were involved in the financing, with **BNP Paribas** acting as the lead arranger. The margins on the loans start at 1.1% and increase to 1.4% during the term.

August Launches

On August 14, **Arianespace** placed into orbit two satellites, **AMC-21** for **SES Americom** and **Superbird-7** for **Space Communications Corporation** (SCC) of Japan, from the **European Space Center** in Kourou, French Guiana on an **Ariane 5 ECA** rocket. AMC-21 was built by **Thales Alenia Space** incorporating a **Star-2** platform from **Orbital Sciences Corporation** and is equipped with 24 Ku-band transponders to provide cable TV distribution and business services in the U.S., the Gulf of Mexico, the Caribbean and Central America from the 125°WL orbital location. Superbird-7 was manufactured by **Mitsubishi Electric Corporation** based on its **DS 2000** platform and is equipped with 28 Ku-band transponders to provide mobile communications, cable TV and direct TV broadcast services to Japan and the Asia-Pacific region from the 144°EL orbital location. On August 19, **International Launch Services** (ILS) successfully launched the **Inmarsat-4 F3** satellite for **Inmarsat plc** from the **Baikonur Cosmodrome** in Kazakhstan on a **Proton Breeze M** rocket. Inmarsat-4 F3 was built by **EADS Astrium** based on its **Eurostar 3000GM** bus design and weighed 5,960 kg at launch. The spacecraft will be positioned at the 98°WL orbital location to complete the Inmarsat-4 **BGAN** global voice and broadband services network. **RapidEye AG** announced on August 29 the successful launch of its 5-satellite **RapidEye** commercial Earth observation constellation on a silo-based **Dnepr** vehicle from the **Baikonur Cosmodrome**. Built by **Surrey Satellite Technology Ltd**, the 150-kg satellites are equipped with a five-band multispectral optical imager with a ground resolution of 6.5 meters.

Arianespace To Launch Koreasat 6

Arianespace announced on August 25 that it has been selected to launch the **Koreasat 6** communications satellite for **Korea Telecom**. The launch will be performed by an **Ariane 5** or **Soyuz** vehicle from Kourou, French Guiana during the second half of 2010. Koreasat 6 will be built by **Thales Alenia Space** using a **Star-2** platform from **Orbital Sciences Corporation** and will be equipped with 30 Ku-band transponders to provide direct broadcast and fixed satellite services throughout South Korea from the 116°EL orbital location.

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