



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

### ILS & Sea Launch Announce Orders

**International Launch Services** (ILS), the joint venture between **Lockheed Martin Corporation** and **Khrunichev State Research and Production Space Center**, is off to a fast start in 2006 with the announcement on February 7 of three new launch services contracts on **Proton** launch vehicles. **JSAT Corporation**, the first Japanese satellite operator to select a Russian launch vehicle, is scheduled to launch its **JCSAT-11** satellite in 2007. **Telesat Canada** is scheduled to launch **Nimiq-4** in 2008, marking its fifth ILS launch service and **Sirius Satellite Radio** has contracted for a launch service to occur prior to December 2010. On February 17, **Space International Services** and **Sea Launch Company** announced the award of a firm launch contract with **Israel Aircraft Industries, Ltd.**, utilizing the **Zenit-3SLB Land Launch** system to deploy the **AMOS-3** satellite for **Spacecom Ltd.** in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2007 from the **Baikonur Cosmodrome** in Kazakhstan.

### February Satellite Launches

On February 15, a **Sea Launch Company Zenit-3SL** rocket successfully deployed the **EchoStar X** communications satellite for **EchoStar Communications Corporation** from the **Odyssey** ocean-based launch platform positioned on the equator. The spacecraft, built by **Lockheed Martin Commercial Space Systems** and based on its A2100-AX platform, is equipped with a high power Ku-band payload and will deliver direct-to-home broadcast services to **DISH Network** customers throughout the U.S. from the 110°W orbital position. On February 18, **Rocket System Corporation** of Japan successfully launched the **Multifunctional Transport Satellite 2** (MTSat-2) for the **Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency** (JAXA) on board an **H-2A** launch vehicle from the **Tanegashima Space Center**. MTSat-2, the second spacecraft in Japan's Multifunctional Transport Satellite fleet, aids in air traffic management and weather forecasting in the Asia-Pacific region. Just four days later, JAXA successfully launched the **ASTRO-F** scientific satellite on an **M-5** launch vehicle from the **Uchinoura Space Center**. On February 28, an apparent underperformance of the **ILS Proton M/Breeze M** rocket placed the **Arabsat-4A** satellite in a sub-optimal transfer orbit. It is unclear at this time whether the spacecraft, a **Eurostar E2000+** bus variant built by **EADS Astrium** for the **Arab Satellite Communications Organization** can be raised to its correct operational orbit through use of its on-board propulsion system.

### Telesat Canada IPO Planned in 2006

**Bell Canada Enterprises** (BCE) announced in early February its plans to recapitalize and sell a minority stake in **Telesat Canada**, its wholly-owned satellite operator subsidiary, as part of a contemplated \$875 million initial public offering to occur in the second half of 2006. BCE has reported in the press its expectation that Telesat will command a multiple of 8.5 times EBITDA in connection with its IPO.

### February Satellite Orders

On February 1, **Loral Skynet**, a subsidiary of **Loral Space & Communications**, announced that construction of **Telstar 11N**, a powerful new multi-region communications satellite, has begun at **Space Systems/Loral's** (SS/L) facilities in Palo Alto, CA. Based on SS/L's **1300** platform, the spacecraft will be equipped with 39 Ku-band transponders spread across four different geographic beams in each of North and Central America, Europe, Africa and the Atlantic Ocean Region. Telstar 11N is expected to begin service during the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2008 at the 37.5°W orbital position and is considered a strategic element of Loral Skynet's FSS expansion plans in the high-growth data and IP service markets of Europe and Africa. On February 20, in the presence of the President of France and the Prime Minister of India in New Delhi, **EADS Astrium** and **ANTRIX**, the commercial arm of the **Indian Space Research Organization** (ISRO), signed a contract for delivery of the **W2M** satellite to **Eutelsat Communications**. The spacecraft, based on the flight-proven **ISRO I-3K** bus, will operate a baseline of 26 and up to 32 Ku-band transponders depending on the selected operational mode for the duration of its 15-year design life. W2M will be delivered in 26 months for launch in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2008. The spacecraft is the first to be manufactured pursuant to the alliance between EADS Astrium and ANTRIX/ISRO which is targeting the market segment for communications satellites with 4kW of payload power and a launch mass of 2 to 3 tons. On February 23, **Alcatel Alenia Space** announced that it had signed a contract with **Turksat AS** for in-orbit delivery of the **Turksat 3A** satellite. The order extends Alcatel's position as Turksat's sole satellite provider in a relationship spanning over 10 years. The spacecraft, based on Alcatel's **Spacebus 4000B2** platform, will include 24 Ku-band transponders and offer beginning of life power of about 8kW. Turksat 3A is expected to replace **Turksat 1C** at the 42°E orbital position in early 2008 and provide broadcast and broadband services to Europe, Turkey and Central Asia.

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