

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

The Launch of LightSquared™

July 20 marked the launch of **LightSquared™**. The company, formerly **SkyTerra Communications, Inc.**, is building the first integrated, next generation terrestrial and satellite wireless network to provide nationwide 4G broadband services in the contiguous United States on a wholesale only basis. LightSquared's partners will include retailers, wireline and wireless communication service providers and cable operators. **Nokia Siemens Networks** has signed an 8-year agreement valued at more than \$7b to deploy, operate and maintain the LightSquared network.

New Launch Orders for Sea Launch

On July 12, **Sea Launch Company LLC** executed an agreement with **Asia Satellite Telecommunications Company Limited** (AsiaSat) for the launch of an AsiaSat satellite (to be subsequently designated) sometime between 2012 and 2014. On July 22, Sea Launch announced an agreement with a subsidiary of **EchoStar Satellite Services LLC**, a wholly owned subsidiary of **EchoStar Corporation**, for the launch of up to three satellites. These launch services will be performed using a **Zenit-3SL** launcher deployed from Sea Launch's semi-submersible **Odyssey** platform positioned in the equatorial Pacific Ocean.

Sea Launch's Reorganization Approved

On July 27, the **US Bankruptcy Court** in Delaware approved the **Sea Launch Company LLC** Plan of Reorganization, paving the way for the company to emerge from Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection. Subject to receipt of certain regulatory approvals, Sea Launch will be 95% owned by affiliates of **RSC Energia** of Russia, which will be investing more than \$140m in capital to restart and fund ongoing operations.

Avanti Completes Placing of Shares

On July 12, **Avanti Communications Group plc** announced that it has raised approximately £70m following the conditional placement of 16,279,070 new ordinary shares at 430 pence per share.

Cenkos Securities plc and **Jefferies International Limited** acted as joint brokers on the issue. Proceeds from the placement will be used to repay fixed term debt facilities borrowed to finance Avanti's **HYLAS 1** satellite (£53m including accrued interest and an early repayment discount), re-domicile the **HYLAS 2** assets offshore and initiate the procurement of a third satellite.

FCC Promotes Investment in MSS Bands

On July 15, the **Federal Communications Commission (FCC)** issued a combined notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) and notice of inquiry (NOI) aimed at removing certain regulatory barriers to enable terrestrial use of certain licensed Mobile Satellite Service (MSS) spectrum for wireless broadband services. The NPRM outlines proposals to add flexibility to, and promote additional investments in, the MSS bands. The NOI seeks comments on how to best increase the value, utilization, innovation and investment in spectrum throughout the 2 GHz, Big LEO and L-bands.

ILS Successfully Launches EchoStar XV

On July 11, **International Launch Services** successfully launched the **EchoStar XV** satellite from the **Baikonur Cosmodrome** on a **Proton Breeze M** launcher for **DISH Network LLC**. Built by **Space Systems/Loral** based on its **1300** platform, EchoStar XV is equipped with 32 Ku-band transponders and will be located at the 61.5°WL orbital location to provide expanded services, including HD programming, for DISH Network's direct-to-home television subscribers in the eastern continental United States. **EchoStar Satellite Services LLC**, a subsidiary of **EchoStar Corporation**, manages DISH Network's space programs.

July Satellite Orders

On July 6, **Space Systems/Loral (SS/L)** announced a contract to build the **Amazonas 3** satellite, expected to be launched in 2012, for the **HISPASAT Group**. Amazonas 3 will be based on SS/L's **1300** platform and equipped with 33 Ku-band and 19 C-band transponders. It will be used to broadcast and distribute TV and radio programming to Europe and North and South America, as well as to deploy universal social services and corporate fixed and mobile telephone networks in these regions from the 61°WL orbital location, where it will replace the **Amazonas 1** satellite. On July 15, **Eutelsat Communications** and **ictQATAR** announced the selection of SS/L to build a high-capacity satellite that they will jointly own and operate at the 25.5°EL orbital location. Expected to enter into service in early 2013, the spacecraft will be based on SS/L's 1300 platform and will provide Ku-band and Ka-band capacity for video broadcasting, enterprise communications and government services in the Middle East, North Africa and Central Asia region.