

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

IS-14, IS-15 and W7 Successfully Launched

On November 23, **Intelsat, Ltd.** announced the successful launch of its **Intelsat 14** (IS-14) satellite on an **Atlas V** launcher provided by **United Launch Alliance**. IS-14, built by **Space Systems/Loral** based on its **1300** platform, is equipped with 40 C-band and 22 Ku-band transponders to provide telecommunications services to the Americas, Europe and Africa from the 45°WL orbital location. On November 24, **International Launch Services** successfully launched the **W7** communications satellite for **Eutelsat Communications** on a **Proton M/Breeze M** launcher. Built by **Thales Alenia Space** based on its **Spacebus 4000 C4** platform, W7 is equipped with up to 70 Ku-band transponders connected to six high-performance fixed and steerable beams to provide services to anchor pay-TV operators in Russia, the Ukraine and sub-Saharan Africa and provide replacement capacity to customers in Europe, North Africa, the Middle East and central Asia from the 36°EL orbital location. On November 30, **Land Launch** launched the **Intelsat 15** (IS-15) satellite for Intelsat using a **Zenit-3 SLB** launcher from the **Baikonur Cosmodrome** in Kazakhstan. IS-15 will replace **Intelsat 709** at the 85°EL orbital location and provide video and data services to the Middle East, Indian Ocean Region and Russia.

November Launch Services Orders

On November 9, **APT Satellite Company Ltd.** announced that its high-capacity communications satellite, **APSTAR 7**, will be launched by a **Long March 3B** vehicle sometime between February and April 2012. APSTAR 7, built by **Thales Alenia Space** based on the **Spacebus 4000 C2** platform, will be equipped with 28 Ku-band and 28 C-band transponders to provide broadcast and telecommunications services to the Asia Pacific Region, Africa, the Middle East and parts of Europe from its 76.5°EL orbital location. On November 10, **International Launch Services** announced that it has signed an agreement with **SIRIUS XM Radio** for launch of the **XM-5** satellite on a **Proton** launcher. Built by **Space Systems/Loral** based on its **1300** platform, XM-5 will be located at the 85°WL orbital location and provide digital-music, entertainment and data services to SIRIUS XM Radio subscribers in North America. The satellite is scheduled for launch in 2010.

Astrium to Build Four Satellites for SES

Astrium, a wholly-owned subsidiary of **EADS**, and **SES S.A.** announced on November 30 that SES has ordered four satellites from Astrium, based on its **Eurostar E3000** platform, to provide capacity for its **SES ASTRA** and **SES WORLD SKIES** divisions. The satellites are scheduled for launch between 2012 and 2014. Three of the satellites, designated **ASTRA 2E**, **ASTRA 2F** and **ASTRA 2G**, will provide next generation broadcast, VSAT and broadband services in Europe and Africa from the 28.2°EL orbital location. The fourth satellite, designated **ASTRA 5B**, will provide Direct-to-Home and Direct-to-Cable services, plus contribution feeds to Digital Terrestrial Television networks in Eastern Europe and neighboring markets from its 31.5°EL orbital location.

SES Invests in O3b Networks

SES S.A. announced on November 16 that it has made a minority investment in **O3b Networks** to support the development of O3b's satellite-based, global internet backbone network. SES joins current investors **Google**, **Liberty Global**, **HSBC** and **North Bridge Venture Partners** and will invest a total of \$75m in the company, as well as contribute engineering and commercial services to support O3b's development.

Eutelsat and ABS Sign Strategic Agreement

Eutelsat Communications and **Asia Broadcast Satellite** announced on November 16 the execution of a strategic agreement for commercial cooperation at the 75°EL orbital location. According to this agreement, Eutelsat is co-locating its **EUROBIRD 4** satellite, renamed **W75/ABS-1B**, at the 75°EL orbital location with the **ABS-1** and **ABS-1A** satellites operated by ABS. This redeployment will add 8 Ku-band transponders to the 75°EL orbital location to provide services to markets in the Middle East, central Asia and Russia.

ABS Acquires Mabuhay

Asia Broadcast Satellite announced on November 6 that it will acquire the Philippines-based satellite operator **Mabuhay Satellite Corporation**. The acquisition includes the entirety of Mabuhay's assets, including the **Space Systems/Loral**-built **Agila 2** satellite and the **Subic Ground Control Center**. Closing of the transaction will occur following receipt of U.S. government approvals.

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