

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

### February Satellite Orders

On February 4, **Thales Alenia Space** and **EADS Astrium** announced that they have been jointly selected by **Arabsat** to build two communications satellites, **Arabsat-5C** and **Arabsat-6B**. Both spacecraft will be based on the **Eurostar E3000** platform supplied by Astrium. Arabsat-5C will be equipped with 26 C-band and 12 Ka-band transponders and positioned at the 20°EL orbital location. Arabsat-6B will be equipped with 36 Ku-band transponders and operate from the 26°EL orbital location to provide telecommunication services in the Middle East and Africa.

**SES S.A.** announced on February 11 that it has selected **Space Systems/Loral** to build a high-power Ku-band satellite, **QuetzSat-1**, based on its **1300** bus. The spacecraft is scheduled for launch in 2011 with its communications capacity fully contracted to a subsidiary of **EchoStar Corporation** to provide direct-to-home services to Mexico and the U.S. from its 77°WL orbital location.

### February Launches

On February 11, the **Russian Satellite Communications Company** (RSCC) announced the successful launch of the **Express-AM44** and **Express-MD1** satellites. The launch was performed from the **Baikonur Cosmodrome** in Kazakhstan by a **Proton Breeze M** launcher. Express-AM44 and Express-MD1 will provide Russian customers with TV and radio broadcasting services, data transmission and broadband Internet from their respective 11°WL and 80°EL orbital locations. **Arianespace** announced on February 12 that it successfully orbited the **HOT BIRD™ 10** broadband satellite for **Eutelsat** and two **Spirale** satellites for the **French Armament Procurement Agency**. HOT BIRD™ 10 was built by **EADS Astrium** based on the **Eurostar E3000** platform, is equipped with 64 Ku-band transponders and will provide television, radio and interactive services to customers in Europe, North Africa and the Middle East from its 13°EL orbital location.

On February 26, **Sea Launch Company, LLC** announced the successful launch of the **Telstar 11N** communications satellite for **Telesat** using the **Land Launch Zenit-3SLB** launcher from the **Baikonur Space Center** in Kazakhstan. Telstar 11N was built by **Space Systems/Loral** based on its **1300** bus, is fitted with 39 Ku-band transponders and will be positioned at the 37.5°WL orbital location to provide capacity over the Atlantic Ocean.

### Arianespace Secures New Launch Orders

**Arianespace** secured 5 launch services orders in February, the first announced on February 3 involving the **Hispasat 1E** communications satellite for **Hispasat S.A.**, scheduled for launch in late 2010 from **Kourou, French Guiana**, using an **Ariane 5 ECA** launcher. Hispasat 1E is being built by **Space Systems/Loral** using its **1300** bus and will be equipped with 53 Ku-band transponders with European and pan-American coverage from its orbital location at 30°WL. On February 4, Arianespace announced the next two launch services, for **Arabsat-5C** and **Arabsat-6B**, using an Ariane 5 ECA. Arabsat-5C will be launched in the third quarter of 2011, while Arabsat-6B will be orbited in the second half of 2012. Finally, on February 6, Arianespace announced a contract to launch two communications satellites, **Yamal-401** and **Yamal-402**, for **Gazprom Space Systems** in the second half of 2011. The two satellites are being built by **Thales Alenia Space** using its **Spacebus 4000C3** platform. Yamal-401 will be equipped with 36 Ku-band and 17 C-band transponders and will be located at the 90°EL orbital location, and Yamal-402 will include 46 Ku-band transponders and will be positioned at the 55°EL orbital location. Both satellites will provide coverage throughout the Russian Federation and CIS.

### Liberty Media Invests in Sirius XM

**Liberty Media Corp.** and **Sirius XM Radio Inc.** announced a \$530 million two-tranche financing package on February 16 averting a potential takeover bid or a loan default. The first tranche consisted of a \$280 million senior secured loan that was used by Sirius XM to repay \$171.6 million of 2.5% convertible notes coming due on February 17, with the balance being used for general corporate purposes. The second tranche consists of an additional \$250 million loan to fund future business operations and address other existing debt, including \$350 million coming due in May 2009. In return for the second tranche loan, Liberty will receive 12.5 million shares of Sirius XM preferred stock that, if converted to common stock, would give Liberty a 40% equity stake in the company. Liberty's loans to Sirius XM come due in 2012 and carry a 15% annual interest rate. Sirius XM currently serves approximately 20 million subscribers in the U.S. and has \$2 billion in annual revenue.

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