

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

### June Satellite Orders

On June 1, **Space Systems/Loral (SS/L)** announced a contract with **Telesat Canada** to supply the **Anik G1** satellite, expected to be launched in the second half of 2012. Anik G1 will be based on SS/L's **1300** platform and equipped with 28 Ku-band, 24 C-band and 3 X-band transponders to provide DTH services in Canada, broadband, voice, data and video services in South America, and certain government communications services to the Americas and Pacific Ocean Region from the 107.3°WL orbital location. On June 9, **Eutelsat Communications (Eutelsat)** announced that **Thales Alenia Space** will build its **W6A** satellite based on Thales' **Spacebus C3** platform. Scheduled for launch during Q3 of 2012, W6A will be equipped with 40 Ku-band transponders to provide data, video and government services to Europe, North Africa, the Middle East and Central Asia from the 21.5°EL orbital location, where it will replace the **W6** satellite. On June 11, SS/L announced a contract to supply the **DIRECTV 14** satellite. The 20 kilowatt satellite will use Ka-band and reverse band DBS (RDBS) spectrum to expand **DIRECTV's** HD programming to both national and local markets in North America. **EADS Astrium** announced on June 30 that it will build the **W5A** satellite for Eutelsat, based on Astrium's **Eurostar E3000** platform. W5A will be equipped with 48 Ku-band transponders to provide government services, broadband, GSM backhaul and video exchange services in Europe, Africa and Central and South-East Asia from the 70.5°EL orbital location.

### June Launch Services

On June 4, **International Launch Services** successfully launched the **BADR-5** satellite from the **Baikonur Cosmodrome** on a **Proton Breeze M** launcher for **Arabsat**. Built by **EADS Astrium** and **Thales Alenia Space** using Astrium's **Eurostar E3000** platform, **BADR-5** will be collocated with the **BADR-4** and **BADR-6** satellites at the 26°EL orbital location to provide DTH services to the MENA region. On June 26, **Arianespace S.A.** successfully launched the **Arabsat-5A** satellite for **Arabsat** and the **COMS** multimission satellite for the **Korea Aerospace Research Institute**, on an **Ariane 5 ECA** launcher. Built by Astrium and Thales Alenia Space, **Arabsat-5A** will provide broadcasting services in the Middle East and North Africa from the 30.5°EL orbital location.

### Iridium NEXT Developments

**Iridium Communications Inc.** (Iridium) announced on June 2 a contract with **Thales Alenia Space** for the design and construction of its next-generation satellite constellation, **Iridium NEXT**, consisting of 72 operational and in-orbit spare satellites, plus an additional 9 on-ground spare satellites. Iridium subsequently announced a \$492m launch services contract with **Space Exploration Technologies Corp.** for Iridium NEXT. The launch services are expected to be performed from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California between 2015 and 2017 using the **Falcon 9** launch vehicle. **COFACE**, the French export credit agency, has issued a "Promise of Guarantee" (credit guarantee) covering 95% of a contemplated \$1.8b credit facility for the NEXT project. The estimated total cost of Iridium NEXT, including satellites, launch services, insurance and ground segment, is approximately \$2.9b.

### June Launch Orders

On June 1, **International Launch Services** announced that it will launch the **Anik G1** satellite for **Telesat Canada** on an **ILS Proton** launcher in the second half of 2012. On June 14, **Arianespace S.A.** announced that it has contracted with **Lockheed Martin Commercial Space Systems (LMCSS)** to launch the **VINASAT-2** satellite for **Vietnam Posts and Telecommunications Group (VNPT)** on an **Ariane 5 ECA** or **Soyuz** launcher from the **Guiana Space Center** in French Guiana in Q2 of 2012. Being built by LMCSS based on its **A2100** platform, **VINASAT-2** will provide radio, television and telephone transmission services to Vietnam and parts of the Asia Pacific region from the 131.8°EL orbital location. On June 28, Arianespace announced that it has signed a contract with **ARSAT** to launch the **Arsat-1** communications satellite on an **Ariane 5 ECA** launcher in mid-2012.

### Inaugural SpaceX Falcon 9 Launch Success

On June 7, **Space Exploration Technologies Corp.** (SpaceX) announced that the inaugural flight of the **Falcon 9** launch vehicle successfully achieved all of its primary mission objectives, including a nearly perfect insertion of the second stage and **Dragon** spacecraft qualification unit into the targeted 250 km (155 mi) circular orbit. The mission marked a major milestone for SpaceX and the commercial space flight industry.

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