

# Space Business Review

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

## November 2015

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### BLUE ORIGIN COMPLETES TEST FLIGHT

On November 25, **Blue Origin, LLC** (Blue Origin) successfully completed the first orbital test flight and landing of its reusable, vertical takeoff and vertical landing **New Shepard** space vehicle, reaching a test altitude of 100.5km before returning to land at its launch site in West Texas. Blue Origin expects the New Shepard to carry six astronauts to altitudes beyond 100km.

### INTELSAT AND JSAT TO FORM HTS JV

On November 4, **Intelsat S.A.** (Intelsat) and **SKY Perfect JSAT Corporation** (JSAT) announced that they signed a definitive agreement to form a joint venture that will launch and operate **Horizons 3e**, a new satellite with optimized C-band and high throughput Ku-band capacity based on the design of the Intelsat **Epic<sup>NG</sup>** next generation platform. Horizons 3e will be positioned at the 169°E orbital location, from where it will provide aeronautical and maritime mobility, broadband connectivity and cellular backhaul services to enterprise and government customers throughout the Asia-Pacific region. Deployment of the satellite will complete a global footprint for the Intelsat **Epic<sup>NG</sup>** platform.

### NOVEMBER SATELLITE ORDERS

**November 11** – **Thales Alenia Space** announced that it was selected by the **Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission** to manufacture the **Bangabandhu** satellite, Bangladesh's first satellite, based on the **Spacebus 4000B2** platform. Bangabandhu will be equipped with 26 Ku- and 14-C-band transponders and will provide broadcasting and telecommunications services to Bangladesh and the surrounding region. To be launched in 2017, Bangabandhu will be positioned at 119.1°E.

**November 25** – **Space Systems/Loral, LLC** announced that it was selected by **Telesat Canada** (Telesat) to manufacture the **Telstar 19 VANTAGE** satellite based on the **SSL 1300** platform. Telstar 19 VANTAGE will be equipped with two high throughput payloads, one in Ku- and the other in Ka-band, and will be co-located with **Telstar 14R** at 63°W. Following launch, expected in 2018, the new satellite will serve Latin America, the North Atlantic, the Caribbean and North Canada. In a related development, Telesat and **Hughes Network Systems, LLC** (Hughes) announced that they entered into a 15-year agreement under which Hughes will use Ka-band capacity on Telstar 19 VANTAGE to expand broadband satellite services in South America.

### HONEYWELL TO ACQUIRE COM DEV

On November 5, **Honeywell International Inc.** (Honeywell) and Canadian satellite component manufacturer **COM DEV International Ltd.** (Com Dev) announced that they entered into a definitive agreement pursuant to which Honeywell will acquire Com Dev for roughly \$345m net of debt and cash, subject to customary closing conditions and regulatory approvals. The acquisition will result in the spinoff to shareholders of **exactEarth Ltd.**, Com Dev's satellite maritime surveillance business.

### NOVEMBER LAUNCH SERVICES

**November 10** – **Arianespace S.A.** successfully launched the **ARABSAT-6B (BADR-7)** and **GSAT-15** satellites for **Arab Satellite Communications Organization** and the **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** respectively on an **Ariane 5** launch vehicle. **BADR-7** was manufactured by **Airbus Defence and Space**, which supplied the **Eurostar E3000** platform and performed integration, and **Thales Alenia Space**, which provided the satellite's telecommunications relay payload. **BADR-7** will provide broadcast, broadband and telecommunications services to users in the Middle East, Africa and Central Asia. **GSAT-15** was manufactured by ISRO; it will provide telecommunications services across India, including navigation-aid and emergency services.

**November 24** – **Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency** successfully launched the **Telstar 12 VANTAGE** satellite for **Telesat Canada** on a **Mitsubishi Heavy Industries H-IIA** launch vehicle. Manufactured by **Airbus Defence and Space** based on the **Eurostar E3000** platform, **Telstar 12 VANTAGE** will provide optimized Ku-band capacity to growing mobility, enterprise and video markets in the Americas and the EMEA region. **Telstar 12 VANTAGE** will replace the **Telstar 12** satellite at the 15°W orbital slot.

### NOVEMBER LAUNCH SERVICES ORDERS

**November 10** – The **Indian Space Research Organisation** announced that it selected **Arianespace S.A.** to launch the **GSAT-17** and **GSAT-18** satellites, each on an **Ariane 5** launch vehicle, in 2016 and 2017, respectively.

**November 11** – **ILS International Launch Services Inc.** (ILS) announced that it entered into a Multi-Launch Agreement with **Intelsat S.A.** (Intelsat) pursuant to which ILS will perform five launches for Intelsat from 2016 through 2023 using the **Proton** launch vehicle.