

## NTIA Spectrum Management of Space Services

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## Outline

- 1. Satellite functions and services
- 2. Satellite orbits
- 3. ITU satellite network registration
- 4. NTIA and U.S. national process





#### **Satellite Functions and Services**

- Communications:
  - Fixed-Satellite Service (FSS)
  - Broadcast-Satellite Service (BSS)
  - Mobile-Satellite Service (MSS)
- Radiodetermination Satellite Service (RDSS)
  - Radionavigation Satellite Service (RNSS)
- Earth Remote Sensing: Earth Exploration Satellite Service (EESS)
  - Weather: Meteorological Satellite Service (MetSat)
- Scientific Research: Space Research Service (SRS)
- Others:
  - Space Operation Service (SOS)
  - Inter-Satellite Service (ISS)



#### **Communications Satellites**

- Of the over 1200 operating satellites, >50% are communications satellites
- Commonly known as "bent pipe" principle
- Transmit messages from one part of the world to another – wide area coverage of earth stations
- Messages can be audio, video, or data



**INTELSAT FSS satellite** 



#### **Radionavigation-Satellite Service (RNSS)**

- NAVSTAR GPS (U.S.)
- GLONASS (Russia)
- GALILEO (Europe)
- COMPASS/BeiDou (China)
- QZSS (Japan)
- IRNSS (India)



## Earth-Exploration Satellite Service

- Better known as remote sensing satellite
- Study Earth's surface (eg., plant cover, chemical composition, surface water) and changes in the Earth's surface (e.g., deforestation, desertification)
- Important to farming, fishing, mining, and many other industries
- active vs. passive EESS



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#### **Satellite Orbits**

- GSO: 35,786 km above the equator
- Geosynchronous vs. geostationary
- NGSO
- Low Earth orbit (LEO): 500 1000 Km
- Medium Earth orbit (MEO): 1000 20,000 km
- Highly Elliptical Orbits (HEO): up to about 40,000 km
- Polar orbit & sun synchronous orbit
- Selection of a satellite orbit depends on coverage and other requirements



#### **GEOSTATIONARY ORBIT**



#### **Original figure from Arthur C. Clarke's article in the October 1945 edition of Wireless World**

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#### **Types of Orbits**

GSO

HEO









## International Frequency Registration of Space Services

- Advance Publication of Information (API) (not subject to coordination)
- Coordination
- Notification

API, coordination and notification publication info is created with ITU SpaceCap software, and filed electronically



## International Frequency Information Circular (IFIC)

- Published bi-weekly on CD-ROM for all ITU members
  - API, coordination and notification requests are published in IFIC
  - Opportunity to verify if the intended new satellite network (or changes to existing ones) would create unacceptable interference to your network
  - 4 month time limit from date of publication to provide comments

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## **Advanced Publication Information (API)**

- API date of receipt starts the date of bringing into use (DBIU) clock
  - If assignment not BIU in 7 years, filing is canceled
  - Roughly 80% of APIs are cancelled.
  - Comments are for information only

## API (cont'd)

- If network subject to coordination, only coordination request is submitted and API is automatically generated
- NGSOs not subject to coordination pay cost recovery fees for API (about 500 CHF)



## Coordination

- Coordination request filing contains detailed info about satellite network
- ITU staff analyze coordination requests to check whether data submitted conforms with:
  - The Convention, Table of Frequency Allocations, other provisions of the Radio Regulations
- Certain frequency bands are not subject to coordination, including most space research allocations



## Coordination (cont'd)

- ITU determines networks for which a specific filing requires coordination
- Once published in an IFIC, Administrations have 4 months to add their names and/or networks to the coordination process
- Coordination receipt date determines coordination priority to other satellite networks
- Coordination between Administrations takes place primarily by correspondence; more difficult cases addressed through bilateral coordination meetings



## Notification

- Notification takes place prior to the end of the 7 year DBIU period and lists coordination status
- Favorable finding by Bureau allows network to be added to the MIFR (Master International Frequency Register)
- Frequencies registered in the MIFR have obtained international recognition
- Notifications that are returned receive an unfavorable finding and are also published in an IFIC

## **Bringing Into Use**

- You must bring network into use within 7 years
- WRC-12 Adopted No. 11.44B on Bringing Into Use (BIU) assignments for GSO Networks
  - Requires a GSO satellite to be capable of transmitting/receiving the frequency assignment
  - Requires 90 day deployment at orbital position
  - Bureau must be notified 30 days from the 90 day period of the BIU date
- WRC-15 modified No. 11.44B to allow a BIU date more than 120 days prior to the date of receipt of the notification information shall also be considered as having been brought into use



## Suspension

- WRC-12 revised provisions for suspending assignments
  - Administrations must suspend assignments within six months of satellite failure
  - Suspension cannot last longer than three years to resume use of an assignment
  - To bring back into use an assignment for a GSO network, you must deploy a GSO satellite for 90 days having the capability of transmitting/receiving the frequency assignment
- WRC-15 revised suspension rules to reduce the three-year time period. The amount by which the three-year period shall be reduced shall be equal to the amount of time that has elapsed between the end of the six-month period and the date that the Bureau is informed of the suspension.

# NTIA & U.S. NATIONAL PROCESS

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## **IRAC FUNCTIONS**

- The Interdepartment Radio Advisory Committee (IRAC) assists NTIA in assigning frequencies to U.S. Government uses and developing procedures, and technical criteria
- IRAC is the principal mechanism for NTIA to get Federal Agency advice on spectrum issues being considered by the FCC
- The IRAC includes 6 subcommittees and several Ad Hoc groups – it is chaired by OSM Deputy Administrator for Spectrum Management
- IRAC has been operating since 1922



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#### **Space Systems Subcommittee Mission**

- (a) review, modify, develop, and maintain the procedures for national implementation of the space related provisions of the ITU Radio Regulations;
- (b) advance publish, coordinate, and notify Government space systems under the applicable provisions of the ITU Radio Regulations;
- (c) respond to the data furnished by other Administrations and the BR regarding proposed space telecommunications systems in accordance with the applicable provisions of the ITU Radio Regulations;
- (d) normally process all internationals actions through the FCC.



#### SPACE SYSTEMS SUBCOMMITTEE

- The SSS is responsible to the IRAC for international registration of U.S. Federal Government satellite systems with the ITU.
- All agencies operating satellite systems are entitled to participate



## Questions?



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