

Intelsat EpicNG, Featuring World's Most Advanced Digital Payload, Completes Major Milestone on the Road to 2016 Launch

March 16, 2015

LUXEMBOURG--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Mar. 16, 2015-- Intelsat S.A., the world's leading provider of satellite services, today announced the completion of a series of tests demonstrating the compatibility of the Intelsat Epic^{NG} digital payload with existing ground equipment platforms. The digital payload is one of many unique design features on the company's Intelsat Epic^{NG} satellites, the first of which, Intelsat 29e, is scheduled to launch in the first quarter of 2016.

As part of the tests, Intelsat General Corp., a wholly owned subsidiary of Intelsat S.A., successfully validated protected tactical waveform (PTW) modem performance on the Intelsat Epic^{NG} digital payload, demonstrating our commitment to providing commercial capacity optimized for secure tactical communications. The PTW test was done to further the joint services effort, led by the United States Air Force, to develop a new PTW modem standard and hardware that will provide cost effective, protected communications over government and commercial satellites in multiple frequency bands.

Intelsat Epic^{NG}'s digital payload represents the latest generation of high performance technology initially developed by Boeing Co. (NYSE: BA) for use on the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) Wideband Global SATCOM ("WGS") satellites. This technology is also provided exclusively for commercial use on the Intelsat Epic^{NG} satellite platform. The all-digital design is a first for fixed satellite service, commercial high throughput satellites ("HTS"), setting Intelsat Epic^{NG} apart from other HTS satellites in-orbit or launching in the near future.

Intelsat Epic^{NG}'s all-digital payload allows connectivities in any bandwidth increment from any beam to any beam. This attribute enables independent frequency selection of the uplink and downlink. Combined, these features provide unprecedented adaptability for a customer's network configuration and topology, allowing customers to leverage installed hardware and to operate mixed spectrum networks. As technology continues to change rapidly, this level of improved performance, efficiency and flexibility of the Intelsat Epic^{NG} platform will better enable customers to rapidly adapt and meet changing market demands.

Stephen Spengler, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Intelsat, commented, "When we conceptualized the Intelsat Epic^{NG} platform design, we wanted to build in technology that would increase performance while also solving operational issues within our customers' networks. This feature of completely flexible beam connectivity is an important early differentiator of the Intelsat Epic^{NG} fleet. The digital payload will be instrumental in allowing flexible and efficient use of spectrum, resulting in a dramatic increase in the amount of throughput we can deliver on the satellites. In addition to efficiency, the technology also increases our ability to mitigate interference and purposeful jamming, which is a very important feature for customers, including those with media and government applications."

Advanced hardware prototypes have been developed over the past 2 years and tested on the DoD's WGS satellites. The successful demonstration of the compatibility and effectiveness of PTW modems on commercial satellites paves the way for the U.S. Government to consider and procure commercial satellite capacity for PTW-based networks.

The tests were conducted in cooperation with Boeing Co. who is manufacturing the new Intelsat Epic^{NG} satellites and has participated in PTW development efforts. Testing included transmitting a PTW signal through the Intelsat Epic^{NG} digital payload and measuring performance quality of high-data throughput.

"The creation of a COMSATCOM resilient tactical service is critical for the future operations of our military and government customers," said Kay Sears, President of Intelsat General Corp. "The Boeing PTW modem test was the first of its kind to measure signal integrity with our new Intelsat Epic^{NG} satellites, so we're quite pleased with the results."

Prior to the successful Intelsat Epic^{NG} digital payload tests, Intelsat conducted tests on existing Intelsat satellites, using the same protected tactical waveform, also with a successful outcome. These latest tests prove that the modems will also work on the upcoming high-throughput Intelsat Epic^{NG} satellites. Intelsat General plans to conduct further tests prior to launch to validate other performance characteristics of the PTW modem with the Intelsat Epic^{NG} digital payload.

Supporting Resources

- About High Throughput Satellites: <http://www.intelsat.com/videos/a-high-throughput-satellite-teach-in/>
- Intelsat Epic^{NG} for Broadband Applications <http://www.intelsat.com/applications/broadband-2/intelsat-epicng-for-broadband/>
- Intelsat Epic^{NG} for Mobility <http://www.intelsat.com/applications/mobility/intelsat-epicng-for-mobility/>
- Intelsat Epic^{NG} for Government Applications: <http://www.intelsatgeneral.com/infrastructure/intelsat-epic-ng>
- Intelsat Epic^{NG} for Media: <http://www.intelsat.com/applications/media/intelsat-epicng-for-media/>

Intelsat S.A. (NYSE: I) is the world's leading provider of satellite services, delivering high performance connectivity solutions for media, fixed and mobile broadband infrastructure, enterprise and government and military applications. Intelsat's satellite, teleport and fiber infrastructure is unmatched in the industry, setting the standard for transmissions of video and broadband services. From the globalization of content and the proliferation of HD, to the expansion of cellular networks and mobile broadband access, with Intelsat, envision your future network, connect using our leading satellite technology and transform your opportunities. Envision...Connect...Transform...with Intelsat. For more information, visit www.intelsat.com.

Intelsat Safe Harbor Statement:

Statements in this news release and certain oral statements from time to time by representatives of the company constitute "forward-looking statements" that do not directly or exclusively relate to historical facts. When used in this earnings release, the words "may," "will," "might," "should," "expect," "plan," "anticipate," "project," "believe," "estimate," "predict," "intend," "potential," "outlook," and "continue," and the negative of these terms, and other similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements and information. Forward-looking statements include: our expectation that our media business will benefit in the near to mid-term from the launch of three satellites which serve our video neighborhoods; our plans for satellite launches in the near to mid-term; our guidance regarding our expectations for our revenue performance, including in our different customer sets, and Adjusted EBITDA performance in 2015; our capital expenditure and customer prepayment guidance for 2015 and the next several years; our expectations as to the increased number of transponder equivalents on our fleet over the next several years; our expectations as to the level of our cash tax expenses over the next several years; our debt repayment guidance for 2015; and our belief that as we execute on our initiatives, we will build the inventory and service capabilities to allow us to capture future growth, including in emerging opportunities that we believe represent larger and more sustainable markets for our services.

The forward-looking statements reflect Intelsat's intentions, plans, expectations, assumptions and beliefs about future events and are subject to risks, uncertainties and other factors, many of which are outside of Intelsat's control. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the expectations expressed or implied in the forward-looking statements include known and unknown risks. Some of the factors that could cause actual results to differ from historical results or those anticipated or predicted by these forward-looking statements include: risks associated with operating our in-orbit satellites; satellite launch failures, satellite launch and construction delays and in-orbit failures or reduced performance; potential changes in the number of companies offering commercial satellite launch services and the number of commercial satellite launch opportunities available in any given time period that could impact our ability to timely schedule future launches and the prices we pay for such launches; our ability to obtain new satellite insurance policies with financially viable insurance carriers on commercially reasonable terms or at all, as well as the ability of our insurance carriers to fulfill their obligations; possible future losses on satellites that are not adequately covered by insurance; U.S. and other government regulation; changes in our contracted backlog or expected contracted backlog for future services; pricing pressure and overcapacity in the markets in which we compete; our ability to access capital markets for debt or equity; the competitive environment in which we operate; customer defaults on their obligations to us; our international operations and other uncertainties associated with doing business internationally; and litigation. Known risks include, among others, the risks described in Intelsat's annual report on Form 20-F for the year ended December 31, 2014, and its other filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, the political, economic and legal conditions in the markets we are targeting for communications services or in which we operate and other risks and uncertainties inherent in the telecommunications business in general and the satellite communications business in particular.

Because actual results could differ materially from Intelsat's intentions, plans, expectations, assumptions and beliefs about the future, you are urged to view all forward-looking statements with caution. Intelsat does not undertake any obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

Source: Intelsat

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