

Russian Satellite
Communications Company

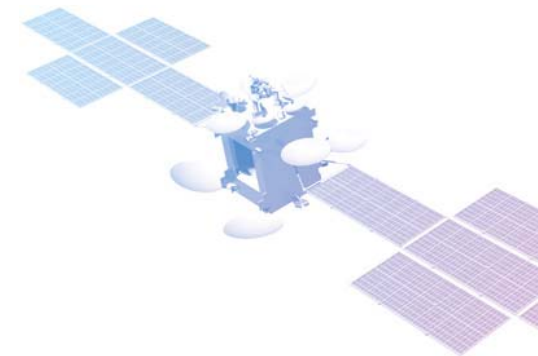
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Russian Satellite
Communications Company



The World is United
via Satellite Communications



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Contents

RSCC to Present Current Orbital Constellation to the Insurance Community in London on September 25, 2013	4
Ministry of Communications Will Punish Operators for Lack of Action	4
LTE in the Chechen Republic	5
MTS Will Market Personal Base Stations	5
RIP Express-MD1	6
Reshetnev is Building an Indian Satellite	6
Gazprom to Manufacture Satellites in Moscow Region . .	7

Sources: ComNews, Izvestia, Vedomosti.ru

❖ RSCC to Present Current Orbital Constellation to the Insurance Community in London on September 25, 2013

The Russian Satellite Communications Company (RSCC) hereby announces a technical presentation of the RSCC current orbital assets. The event is intended for insurance market players engaged in insurance / reinsurance services for the duration of spacecraft actual operation. The audience will include both Russian insurance companies and brokers and international reinsurance companies.

The purpose of the event is to review the overall status of the space crafts that are subject to insurance. The status of their main systems will also be discussed.

For registration it is necessary, no later than 11 September 2013, to send a letter of application to RSCC containing a summary of the intended insurance coverage scheme and a list of representatives including details of the international market participants. ❖

❖ Ministry of Communications Will Punish Operators for Lack of Action

Cellular operators, who fail to build networks on the frequency granted to them, will be divested of both frequency and the equipment. Russian Ministry of Communications and Mass Media proposed to introduce amendments to the Administrative Offence Code which will allow seizure of equipment and frequency from companies who don't use the assigned frequency or installed their equipment in unauthorized locations. Operators fear that the new regulations may affect companies which are actually operative. As a result of long

paperwork for base stations even major operators regularly get warnings from the Federal Service for Supervision in the Sphere of Telecom, Information Technologies and Mass Communications (ROSKOMNADZOR) for unauthorized operations.

The Ministry justifies the need for such amendments claiming that there are companies which were established in order to receive frequency, but not use it afterwards. Subsequently, such companies are resold to operators who actually do business activities in telecom. ❖

❖ LTE in the Chechen Republic

In the beginning of September, Vaynakh Telecom will launch commercial LTE services in the Chechen Republic. The network was built in 2012, but couldn't be commissioned until now due to legal inconsistencies.

This news was brought to ComNews by Vaynakh Telecom Board Chairman Adam Yaragiev. According to him, the company is "ready to launch commercial network operations immediately", and the launch will happen within three to five days.

The network of Vaynakh Telecom CJSC in Chechnya was built on the equipment made at the Center for Wireless Technologies (CWT) in Tomsk (Western Siberia). Previously, 75% of the facility belonged to

Nokia Siemens Networks (NSN), and the remaining 25% – to Russian Micran Research and Production Company. After Rosnano OJSC acquired a 25% share in CWT (see ComNews as of August 19, 2013), NSN only has 50% left.

This progress with the LTE has become possible after Roskomnadzor in the Chechen Republic authorized Vaynakh Telecom to launch commercial mobile services in the 4G network 2.3-2.4 GHz frequency band. Deputy Head of Roskomnadzor Oleg Ivanov explained that prior to granting their permission they received a letter from Ministry of Communications and Mass Media confirming that the authority sees no obstacles for the network to be launched. ❖

❖ MTS Will Market Personal Base Stations

At a time when controlling authorities express discontent with the quality of cellular transmission in the capital of Russia, Mobile TeleSystems (MTS) starts selling femtocells – mini cellphone towers which improve signal reception – to private customers in Moscow. After some time, the company may launch this product throughout the entire country.

MTS plans to launch femtocells on the Moscow market, and in December the company will draw up the sales results and decide whether it would make financial sense to market them in all parts of the country, communicated a spokesperson for the operator Dmitry Solodovnikov. The device has a size of a common Wi-Fi router and will

cost about US \$180. Subscribers can connect the device by themselves. They just need to have Internet access from any fixed line operator (femtocell sends all voice and data traffic from cell phones to the network through user's Internet connection).

3G femtocell has a range of up to 300-400 sq. meters. Solodovnikov didn't specify how many of these stations MTS plans to sell. According to him, they will find use in basements, blinds corners where the signal from outdoor base stations doesn't reach, infill zones, new buildings, etc. Femtocells have direct impact on voice and data traffic consumed by subscribers: it goes up by at least 20%, Mr. Solodovnikov added. ❖

❖ RIP Express-MD1

Express-MD1 broadcasting and communications satellite which was launched to the orbit in 2009 and went out of commission early July was buried in the end of August. Kazakh KazSat-1 spacecraft the platform of which was used as a blueprint for MD1 was also lost back in 2008. MD1's value at launch was estimated at US \$33.3 million, and insurance payments may reach about US \$22.7million.

The Federal Agency of Communications' (Rossvyaz) media service

announced decommissioning of the space craft beginning August 21st. Operator of MD1 – Russian Satellite Communications Company (RSCC) – wouldn't elaborate on any further details. Satellite insurer Ingosstrakh OJSC was not available for comment either. However, an industry insider revealed that expert commission investigating the July incident has already ended its work. Officially, the emergency hasn't been recognized as an event insured against yet. ❖

❖ Reshetnev is Building an Indian Satellite

Russian satellite manufacturer ISS – Reshetnev Company and multinational AOneSat Communication AG signed a contract for the delivery of a telecommunication satellite scheduled for launch in 2016. This news was released to ComNews by an official spokesperson for Russia's Federal Space Agency (Roscosmos) at MAKS-2013 aerospace salon in Zhukovsky (Moscow region). The contract was signed by the ISS – Reshetnev general designer

Nikolay Testoedov and president of AOneSat Communication AG Subba Rao Pavuluri.


The AOneSat-1 telecommunications spacecraft will be built by ISS-Reshetnev around its middle-class Express-1000H satellite platform. A representative of the ISS reported that the satellite is expected to carry out its mission in orbit for 15 years. Under the terms of the contract, it should be put into orbit in 2016. ❖

Gazprom to Manufacture Satellites in Moscow Region

Yamal Satellite broadcasting and telecommunications provider controlled by Gazprom Space Systems OJSC will join forces with Gazprom Investproject, Vnesheconombank and the Government of Moscow region to set up a spacecraft assembly facility. The project stipulates production of up to four spacecrafts a year at the new satellite facility in the Moscow region.

The contract was signed in the end of August at the International Aerospace Salon (MAKS-2013) by acting Governor of the Moscow region Andrey Vorobiev, general designer of Gazprom Space Systems Nikolay Sevastianov, general director of Gazprom Investproject Igor

Golenischev and deputy chairman of Vnesheconombank Anatoly Ballo in presence of Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev.

The plan envisages creation of a spacecraft assembly facility in Schelkovo, Moscow region, which will cater to the Yamal project and SMOTR surveillance system – another project of Gazprom Space Systems. The latter is being developed as part of Russia' Federal Space Program for 2006-2015 to monitor oil and gas pipelines and also for land-use management, exploration and further exploration of new fields, emergency monitoring, and evaluation of the environmental damage as a result of accidents and natural disasters. 

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