Altaf Raffik

TCET2220

Engineering Ethics

12/16/2013

The Satellite Communications Conference and Expo (SATCON)

November 13-14, 2013

Javits Convention Center

At SATCON thousands of attendees and exhibitors participate in the always changing conversation surrounding satellite communications and content delivery. Government/military, media & entertainment, telecommunications, commercial, mobile satellite and enterprise organizations attend SATCON to see the latest products and technologies, network with peers and find potential partners and solution providers. SATCON provides information and knowledge to keep up with the changing global communications market. It enables collaboration with industry leaders who deliver insight and information on emerging technologies. The three largest fixed satellite operators were present with their latest and greatest products and technologies. The largest being Intelsat then SES and then Eutelsat.

Intelsat was introducing and promoting its latest satellite the Intelsat Epic. It is supposed to be launched in 2015 and 2016 respectively with two satellites the Intelsat 29e and 33e. The Epic is supposed to be a high performance satellite platform based on an open architecture designed to deliver carrier grade dedicated high throughput capacity to meet the growing bandwidth needs. It will provide three to five times more capacity per satellite than their existing fleet with expect throughput to be between 25-60 Gbps about ten times better that their existing fleet. Spot beams will be used in C, Ku and Ka bands to allow improvements in specific coverage areas. The key performance factor is a lower cost per bit and global coverage. Intelsat Epic increases efficiency, non-linear distribution of media, distribution of regional content and higher throughput into smaller terminals.

SES was introducing and promoting its latest satellite SES-9. It is supposed to be launched in 2015 providing maritime communication services and direct to home services in the Ku band for commercial users in the Asia Pacific region. The SES-9 will be co-located with the existing SES-7 satellite providing incremental and replacement capacity to that coverage area. The expected orbital location is 108.2 E with a design life of 15 years manufactured by Boeing with Ku band linear polarization and 81 transponders equal to 36 MHz.

Eutelsat was introducing and promoting its tri-band satellite the Eutelsat 3B planned to be launched in 2014. It will increase and diversify its resources for markets in Africa, the Middle East, Central Asia, and South America. It will have up to 51 transponders operating in the C, Ku, and Ka bands. It will be manufactured by Astrium and will add resources in three frequency bands connected to fixed and steerable antennas for maximum flexibility where customers will be able to select the most relevant frequency band for different types of service. High throughput beams in the Ka band will be individually steerable to bandwidth demanding markets. Attending SATCON proved to be a satisfying experience enabling us to witness firsthand the connections between the current industry and acquired knowledge from classes.