



COMMUNICATIONS ALLIANCE LTD

MEDIA RELEASE

Communications Alliance Establishes Satellite Services Working Group

Sydney, 12 March 2012 – Communications Alliance has established a Satellite Services Working Group to advance the interests of the growing satellite-based network and facilities services sector in Australia.

Communications Alliance CEO, John Stanton welcomed the formation of the group, which reflects in part the important satellite component of the National Broadband Network (NBN) plan. The foundation members of the group include many of Australia's leading satellite services players, including Optus Satellite, NBN Co, Telstra, Newsat, Intelsat, Thales, APN, Indigo Telecom, SES New Skies and Coutts Communications.

The Working Group will focus on a range of activities, including:

- policy development and advocacy on behalf of the satellite sector at the wholesale and retail layers, including via input to State and Federal Government policy fora and Inquiries;
- promotion of the role and importance of satellite services;
- liaison with NBN Co on operational issues relating to the satellite-based components of the National Broadband Network;
- expert input into the creation or revision of Communications Alliance Codes, Guidelines and Standards that have implications for satellite-based services;
- collaborative activities to foster the development and growth of the satellite sector in Australia and to resolve technical or commercial issues of common interest; and
- monitoring of international standards work relevant to the Australian satellite sector.

"Satellite services have played an important role in conquering Australia's communications challenges since the early 1970s and will become an even more important element of our connectivity matrix as the NBN moves from its interim satellite solution to a Ka-band based service for many parts of rural and remote Australia," Mr Stanton said.

The Working Group will collaborate with the Satellite Industry Association of Australia (SIAA) and liaise closely with the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA), which is responsible for international space coordination activities on behalf of Australia.



COMMUNICATIONS ALLIANCE LTD

MEDIA RELEASE

ABOUT COMMUNICATIONS ALLIANCE

Communications Alliance is the primary telecommunications industry body in Australia. Its membership is drawn from a wide cross-section of the communications industry, including carriers, carriage and internet service providers, content providers, search engines, equipment vendors, IT companies, consultants and business groups.

Its vision is to provide a unified voice for the telecommunications industry and to lead it into the next generation of converging networks, technologies and services. The prime mission of Communications Alliance is to promote the growth of the Australian communications industry and the protection of consumer interests by fostering the highest standards of business ethics and behaviour through industry self-governance. For more details about Communications Alliance, see www.commsalliance.com.au.

Media information contact:

Kreab Gavin Anderson

Lucy Mudd: lmudd@kreabgavinanderson.com 0402 106 613

Amanda Buckley: abuckley@kreabgavinanderson.com 0419 801 349