

Topics from within

AIAA Technical Committee on Communications Systems

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A meeting of the AIAA Technical Committee on Communications Systems (TCCS) was held on Wednesday, 15 September 2004 at Intelsat Headquarters, Washington, DC. Attending in person were: Dr. E. Asford, Dr. D. Boulanger, Dr. D. Curtin, Dr. D. Durrani, Mr. E. Elizondo, Mr. C. Hoerber, Mr. R. Houston, Ms. E. McGowan, Dr. J. Pelton, Mr. J Sandberg, Dr. C. Cotner, Dr. F. Gargione and myself. Members who attended via teleconference were: Dr. Helm, Dr. Bousquet, Dr. Butash, Dr. Smith and others.



Before the meeting started, Denis Boulanger introduced Ken Betaharon, IntelSat Senior Vice President and Betaharon gave a warm welcome to the TCCS and invited the group to later take a tour of the INTELSAT Spacecraft Operations Center. The meeting was called to order by Dick Houston, followed by introductions of those present and on the teleconference hookup.

TCCS Membership currently stands as follows: US Members: 31 (limit 35), International Members: 10 (no limit), Associate Members (under age 35): 0. Mr. Kadowaki, ATR Japan, has been nominated as a new member of TCCS. The member less than 35 years old is only Ms. McGowan, Futoron. So, it was decided to welcome young generation as an Associate Member to activate TCCS.

Dr. Pelton introduced the book "Satellite Communications in the 21st Century: Trends and Technologies" edited by Dr. Cotner, Dr. Iida and Dr. Pelton. There was an idea to use this book in ICSSC Colloquium to recture how to design communications satellites; however, this was abandon due to the constraint of ITAR.

I presented a summary of the JFSC Activities for the last year and the planned activities for next year using the material to be used in JFSC General Assembly on 9 September 04.

Dr. Gargione presented the status of ICSSC-2005 that will be jointed with Ka and Broadband Communications Conference. As Ka and Broadband Communications



Intelsat Head Quarter

Conference in 2004 will be held at the end of September, so, the detailed plan in 2005 will be started after 2004 conference. SatNex day has been discussed where should be located in the normal session or colloquium. ICSSC-2005 Colloquium Chair, Dr. Bousquet has come to examine it once again in Europe, although it intends to

take up it as Colloquium. Regional Deputy Chair of each region is elected in ICSSC-2005. As for the Asia area, Dr. Kitazume, JEPICO was introduced. On the other hand, the convention participation register fee is planning about 800 euros and this is fairly high number.

Mr. Houston summarized the status of ICSSC-2006. ICe was asked in early June to come back to AIAA with a proposal for a possible Joint Conference in 2006. There has been no feedback yet.

Fallback position if ICe does not work out is to have a conference by AIAA by itself and should be decided by the end of this year. All members of TCCS recognized that ICSSC-2006 is important and critical path to continue ICSSC permanently.

I presented the planning status and tentative schedule for ICSSC-2007 based on the meeting results between JFSC and APSCC on 3 September 04. Also introduced the JFSC assignment of key persons for ICSSC-2007 for to promote the preparation activities: General Chair, Mr. Suzuki, NICT; Technical Chair, Dr. Umehira, NTT and Colloquium Chair: Mr. Kadowaki, ATR.

Also, TCCS wished Mr. Kadowaki becomes Colloquium Chair from TCCS side alos by supporting from Dr. Helm of GWU. Mr. Curtin requested to make a profit to support TCCS activity and it depends on the expense of meeting place in Korea, although it is cheaper than Japan.

Mr. Curtin summarized the financial report. It was the first time for me in three years TCCS member. Current balance is about \$40,000 and the profit from ICSSC-2004 Colloquium is about \$8,000. An extensive discussion ensued as



TCCS Meeting

to possible use for part of these funds such as to support travel and per-diem for students to attend ICSSC conferences based on the results of student paper contest. It had been decided that each member proposes about effective utilization.

The next TCCS meeting will be held on 10-13 January 2005 in Reno, Nevada and the meeting adjourned.

Under the courtesy of Intelsat, all member visited the Intelsat Spacecraft Operation Center, the Communication Control Room and the Satellite Operation Room. Although Intelsat operates 28 satellites, there were few people in the Satellite Operation Room due to autoimmunization. On the other hand, there were some people in the Communications Control Room.



Satellite Operation Room



Communications Control Room

I have been visiting Intelsat Head Quarter since 1980's and this place used to be called as "International Zoo on Connecticut Avenue" due to many people was working wearing their mother country's costume. I felt it was an old good days by seeing that the people inside this building were dramatically decreasing.

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