

## 7.17 Satellite & Space Communications - approved 4/99 -

The committee facilitates technical exchange in the field of satellite and space communications and maintains a keen interest in the development and maintenance of standards in this area. It explores the evolution of new satellite and space-based systems and the application of new and emerging technologies.

### Operating Plan

#### Near-term Plans for the Upcoming Year

- Continue to meet twice annually at the ICC and Globecom conferences.
- Continue to organize and chair at least one or two technical sessions at ICC'99 and Globecom'99.
- Co-sponsor with CSIM a workshop on "Satellite Communications Architecture and Networks" for ICC'99.
- Present tutorial on "Broadband Satellite Networks" at ICC'99.
- Publish IEEE Communications Magazine feature topic issues on "Satellite ATM Network Architectures" and "Wideband Satellite Performance and Experimentation".
- Submit proposal for IEEE Communications magazine feature topic issue on "Free Space Laser Communications".
- Continue to participate in ITU-R Ka-band Fixed Satellite Service standards development.
- Continue to provide an area editor in radio and satellite communications for the IEEE Communications Surveys electronic magazine.
- Organize and chair SAS session on "Satellite Communications in Latin America" at Globecom'99.
- Develop plan for new membership drive and campaign to improve the participation of international satellite communications industry.
- Establish active working relationship with AIAA Technical Committee on Communications Systems(TCCS).

#### Longer-term Vision from 2-5 Years Out Based on the ComSoc Strategic Plan

- There are new and revolutionary developments taking place in the field of satellite communications. First, narrowband systems using L/S-band frequencies and non geostationary satellite constellations are being introduced. These systems will provide cellular like services to handheld satellite terminals. In addition, wideband systems using Ka/Q/V band frequencies and some also using non-geostationary satellite constellations are emerging. These systems will provide multi-media type services to very small aperture satellite terminals. Both the narrowband and wideband systems will make state-of-the-art communications services available virtually anywhere in the world.
- The SSC TC's long term objective is to be actively on top of these new developments and insure that they are made visible to the IEEE COMSOC community via the various conferences and media. Toward this objective, we are in the process of formulating plans to attract new members particularly from the industries and organizations at the fore-front of these new developments.
- In addition, we are striving to work a joint working relationship with the AIAA to the objective of co-sponsoring an annual symposium on Satellite Communications. The AIAA TCCS has historically sponsored such an event on a bi-annual basis. In our opinion, this AIAA symposium has been the best engineering conference on satellite communications.
- We are also interested in attempting to establish a more active relationship with the International Journal of Satellite Communications.
- Identifying up to three important issues that may benefit from OpCom or TAC involvement.

## **Working Policies and Procedures**

### **Definition of Elected and Appointed Officer Positions**

Officers: Chair, Vice-chair, Secretary

Chair is responsible for planning and managing the activities of the committee; prepares for and chairs the semi-annual meetings.

Vice-chair supports the chair in the execution of these duties.

Secretary manages the SSC TC web page; prepares and distributes the SSC TC newsletter and meeting minutes; handles SSC TC- membership communications.

Appointed Positions: Liaisons

Liaisons to PCS, Tactical Communications, and CSIM TC's

Liaisons to IEEE Communications Magazine and JSAC

Liaisons to ICC, MILCOM, Globecom TPC

Liaison to AIAA TCCS

### **Nomination and Election Procedures**

A candidate selection committee, consisting of the outgoing Chair and two past (but still active) chairs, is formed six months before start of new term. This committee under the management of the outgoing Chair prepares a recommended slate of officers for the next two-year term. The recommended slate is presented at the next SSC TC meeting for consideration. At the SSC TC meeting the floor is opened for other nominations prior to a vote on approval of the recommended slate. Voting is restricted to those in attendance.

### **Planning, Announcement and Conduction of TC Meetings**

SSC TC meetings are held at noon on the second day of every ICC and Globecom conference. This fact is advertised in the SSC TC Newsletter which is published semi-annually and distributed to the membership. The next meeting announcement is also put on the SSC TC web page several months prior to the meeting.

### **Budget and Expense Policies and Procedures**

We have virtually no experience with planning for, budgeting, or expending of available ComSoc funds available for TC operations. We will contact ComSoc Headquarters to learn more about the availability of funds and policies and procedures for their disbursement. We will then develop a plan and budget for how we will use them to support SSC TC operations.

### **Support for ComSoc Activities such as Publications, Conferences, Educational Services, Standards Activities, Membership Development, etc.**

There are currently now formal policy and/or procedures for making these decisions. Most proposals for organizing and supporting activities in the past were based on encouraging or supporting proposals developed by the membership.

### **Information Dissemination Activities such as Newsletters and Web Pages**

The SSC TC secretary has developed and maintains an SSC TC web page. The content of the web page is determined by joint collaboration among the SSC TC officers. We also publish a SSC Newsletter twice a year. The Chair writes the "Message from the Chair" column, the Vice Chair writes the "Scanning the World" column, and the Secretary prepares the "News and Events" sections, edits, publishes, and distributes the Newsletter. Some of the material in the Newsletter has a business flavor, i.e., status reports on new and emerging systems and technology. It is not clear what is meant by commercial flavor. We do mention the names of companies and agencies involved in various satellite communications activities.

### **Membership List**

The Secretary maintains the membership list. It is currently listed on the SSC web page. Members may request that their contact information not be posted on the web. We are currently in the process of reviewing and validating the membership list. Long inactive members have been eliminated. New members are added as soon as they join and are sent a letter of welcome from the Chair distributed by the Secretary.

### **Other Areas That May Be Appropriate**

No comment.