



## ***ISI offers an overview of future SatCom technologies during ICT 2008***

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*Lyon – November 26, 2008*

In the framework of the ICT 2008 event organized by the European Commission in Lyon on November 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>, and attended by more than 3.000 people, ISI held its “Satellite communications technology for a converging world” networking session, in which European key stakeholders in the SatCom field analyzed European and international aspects and challenges providing their views on key areas for the future advancement of SatComs.

During the first panel the importance that traditionally and currently SatComs have for European ICT, and Space sectors from economic and strategic perspectives was especially highlighted, while at the same time stating that research is the main tool to maintain this privileged position which might otherwise be threatened by new entrants in this market. R&D was definitively identified as the most appropriate instrument to improve present performances, develop new concepts and architectures, new business models and service paradigms.

Among other important challenges that SatComs are facing, spectrum and regulatory aspects were identified as one of the most critical issues to be dealt with. The current regulatory framework is in some aspects obsolete, and is not coherent with current technologies, and spectrum/power requirements. Advanced cognitive technologies for spectrum management and sharing should be intensively used in order to permit a shared used of spectrum by different technologies.

The role that SatComs should play in Future Networks, and particularly in the Future Internet, was also one of the main points discussed during this session. The evolution of the technology and market scenario is moving towards interoperability of satellite communications systems with the terrestrial communications networks, and this is the way in which future networks should be seen, as a hybrid seamless network, in which Satellite Communications will be an essential part for the development of the Global Communications Networks of the Future.

The ISICOM (Integrated Space Infrastructure for global COMMunications) concept was finally presented, as an ISI response to European needs for global communication networks, ubiquity and trustability. ISICOM capabilities will be providing assistance in the following missions:

- To improve cooperation between security forces in maintaining peace and stability in Europe.
- To improve disaster management relief actions through the deployment of global, robust communication systems.
- To offer synergy and telecommunications infrastructure to GMES and Galileo.
- To offer ubiquitous access to ICT services to all EU citizens.

During the last three years, ISI has defined and updated the Strategic Research Agenda for Satellite Communications, working continuously for the development of the SatCom sector in Europe through the promotion of R&D and addressing main the challenges faced by the European SatCom sector. ISI is involved in the implementation of its SRA through various initiatives, like ISICOM and Future Internet, where SatComs will play an essential role.

### **About the Integral SatCom Initiative (ISI)**

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*ISI is the European Technology Platform on Satellite Communications, whose membership embraces all relevant and interested private and public stakeholders from Satellite Communications and the Space sector. Currently ISI involves more than 180 member organizations from 29 Countries.*

*The ISI European Technology Platform brings together for the first time in a unified, industry-led body all research, technology and innovation aspects related to satellite communications, including mobile, broadband, and broadcasting applications.*

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