

NARRATIVE

Background

Pursuant to Part 5 of the Commission's Rules (47 C.F.R. §5), General Dynamics SATCOM Technologies, Inc. ("General Dynamics") respectfully submits this application to modify its existing experimental license to operate a network using sub-meter antennas to provide a mobile satellite communications infrastructure for predominately military applications.¹ General Dynamics has been operating this Satcom-on-the-Move™ ("SOTM") system (initially using .60 meter mobile earth station antennas) since November 24, 2004, pursuant to special temporary authority ("STA") and subsequently granted regular experimental authorization to access Intelsat 707 at 53° W.L.² On July 25, 2005, General Dynamics was granted authority to modify its experimental authorization to allow for domestic testing, demonstration, and training operations via six additional satellites from all CONUS locations.³ On November 24, 2005, General Dynamics was granted authority to further modify its experimental authorization to operate three additional 2.4 meter hub stations, and to operate smaller (.45 and .50 meter) mobile earth station antennas from all locations in the United States, including Alaska and Hawaii. On May 15, 2007, General Dynamics' experimental authorization was renewed; it will now expire by its own terms on June 1, 2009.⁴

Modifications Requested and Statement of Public Interest

To accommodate increasing requests by U.S. Army, U.S. Marine Corps, and U.S. Navy communicators for domestic testing, training, and demonstration of the SOTM system, General Dynamics hereby requests a formal modification of its existing experimental authorization to permit such operations via 12 additional satellites (identified in Exhibit A hereof) under the exact same technical and operating parameters as detailed in its existing experimental license. General Dynamics will also ensure that all operations via the requested additional satellites will fully comply with the "Special Conditions" currently imposed under this experimental license. Authority to operate on the requested additional satellites is necessary due to existing and expected capacity restrictions that will significantly jeopardize General Dynamics' ability to meet the U.S. military's growing SOTM needs. Based on the foregoing, grant of the instant modification request is necessary and will serve the public interest by contributing to the achievement of essential tactical communications that are critical to successful U.S. military engagements worldwide.

¹ The technical information required by Section 5 of the rules is provided in the electronic form to which this letter is attached.

² File Nos. 0640-EX-ST-2004, 0123-EX-PL-2005.

³ File No. 0390-EX-ST-2005 (authorizing use of the following six satellites (and Intelsat 707 at 53° W.L.): AMC-9 at 83° W.L. (operated by SES Americom), Horizons 1 at 127° W.L. (operated by PanAmSat), and IA-5 at 97° W.L., IA-6 at 93° W.L., IA-7 at 129° W.L., IA-8 to be located at 89° W.L. (all operated by Intelsat).

⁴ File No. 0088-EX-RR-2007.

ADDITIONAL SATELLITES REQUESTED

Intelsat 9, located at 58 Degrees West
AMC-6, located at 72 Degrees West
Horizons 2, located at 74 Degrees West
AMC-5, located at 79 Degrees West
AMC-2, located at 85 Degrees West
AMC-16, located at 85 Degrees West
Galaxy 17, located at 91 Degrees West
Galaxy 16, located at 99 Degrees West
AMC-4, located at 101 Degrees West
AMC-1, located at 103 Degrees West
AMC-15, located at 105 Degrees West
AMC-21 (to be operational October 2008)