



# C.A. La Electricidad de Caracas SAICA-SACA

Capital Autorizado Bs. 19.300.000.000 - Capital Suscrito Bs. 10.078.493.100 (Totalmente Pagado)  
RIF. No. J-00021243-0

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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JUN 17 1991

## C.A. TELECOMUNICACIONES DE CARACAS

Before the  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of Amended Application of )  
ORBITAL COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION )

For Authority to )  
Construct a Low-Orbit Mobile )  
Satellites System )

File No. 22-DSS-MP-90 (20)

DOMESTIC FACILITIES DIVISION  
SATELLITE RADIO DIVISION

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### COMMENTS

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#### I.- Background

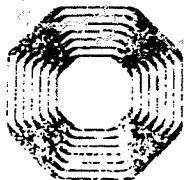
DOMESTIC FACILITIES DIVISION  
SATELLITE RADIO DIVISION

" C.A. Telecomunicaciones de Caracas (TDC) is a company created by " C.A. La Electricidad de Caracas" (EDC), with the purpose of providing private Telecommunication services in Venezuela. EDC is a private electric power company that serves the city of Caracas and other cities in its vicinity that are in the central coastal area of Venezuela. The total generating capacity of EDC is presently about 2.000.000 Kw; the total sales of energy in 1990 were 8.300 GWH; the total number of subscribes is presently 830.000, the Company has total of 6.000 employes.

TDC was created recently in order to participate in the telecommunication industry as a carrier, in accordance with the new liberalization policy of the Venezuelan Government. Telecommunications services heretofore has been a state owned monopoly in Venezuela.

TDC is in the process of creating joint ventures with other Venezuelan electric power companies, in order to provide telecommunications services on a nationwide basis. The physical facilities of the power companies will be employed in the development of the intra-and inter-city distribution networks, primarily employing fiber-optic

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technology. Although TDC is still in its formative stage and has not yet received authorization, it is anticipated some service will be offered to the public by the end of 1991 or early 1992.

#### II.- A Difficult Service Requirement

As an important part of its new business, TDC considers it vital that the remote and sparsely populated areas of Venezuelan be served. It is now difficult and expensive to provide communications to most these regions. Nevertheless, these remote regions have urgent needs for telecommunications services to solve basic requirements of significant importance to the nation. TDC firmly believes these requirements can be met in a cost effective way by the proposed Orbcomm system. These requirements include lifesaving services, remote telemetering systems for monitoring environmental parameters (this is very important in the south of the Orinoco river basin which includes a substantial part of the Amazon forests). SCADA systems for the oil and energy industries, nationwide messaging systems and low to medium data rate, two-way digital communications with high penetration capability, all of which are very important to the future general industrial and commercial growth of Venezuela. These telecommunications capabilities have not been generally available up to the present.

#### III.- Comments

TDC considers the Orbcom system well adapted to satisfy the urgent need of the above cited telecommunications services in Venezuela, in an innovative and cost effective way with minimal implementation time. Due to these advantages, TDC has approached the Venezuelan regulatory agency, the Ministry of Transport and Communications, to assist in providing a detailed understanding of this system and to possibly obtain support of the Ministry in implementation of the Orbcom terrestrial deployment in the country. Likewise TDC anticipates support of this system by the U.S. authorities.



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TDC is of the opinion that the subscriber terminal equipment for the Orbocom system can be manufactured in Venezuela, which could be an important factor for the growth of our emerging telecommunication manufacturing industry. TDC also thinks the implementation of the Orbocom system in Venezuela will be an important contribution to the development of multiple value-added services of wide coverage, which are urgently needed in the country.

With the support of Orbital Communications Corp., TDC is presently promoting with Venezuelan authorities and universities the initiation of a research program to evaluate the fundamental capabilities of the Orbcom project. Among the more interesting matters in the proposed research will be Orbocom's frequency sharing possibilities with existing services in the proposed frequency bands. The cost of implementation, and specially operational cost of the systems as compared to present terrestrial approaches will also be studied.

In summary, TDC supports the Orbocom System as an effective and timely solution to special telecommunication needs existing in Venezuela, which would be very difficult and costly to satisfy by other techniques. With this in mind, TDC has proposed to the Venezuelan authorities the aforementioned test of the effectiveness of the Orbocom system and evaluation of its frequency sharing possibilities with other services presently using the proposed bands. In this way, Venezuela will independently obtain the basic information needed for an eventual support by the Venezuelan Administration in future ITU Conferences. TDC also urges authorities in other countries to proceed in a similar fashion and specially to the U.S. authorities to expedite the rulemaking, licensing and authorizations required for the timely availability of these potentially valuable services to the people of Venezuela and other nations.

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