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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

FCC REMITTANCE

Approved by OMB 3060-0589

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6560 Rock Spring Drive Bethesda, MD 20817 Telephone 301 214 3459 Fax 301 214 7145

July 12, 1996

Received

JUL 2 6 1996

Mr. William F. Caton, Acting Secretary Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, N.W., Room 222 Washington, D.C. 20554 Satellite Policy Branch International Bureau

ATTN: Thomas S. Tycz, Chief

Satellite and Radiocommunication Division

International Bureau

RE: Inmarsat-3 (F-2) Launch Authorization Request

Dear Mr. Caton:

COMSAT Corporation ("COMSAT"), by its COMSAT Mobile Communications business unit, hereby applies for such authority as may be necessary to participate in the launch, positioning and in-orbit testing of the Inmarsat-3 (F-2) spacecraft. The Inmarsat-3 (F-2) spacecraft is currently under construction at Lockheed Martin Corporation and is expected to be delivered in July 1996. Current plans call for the launch of the spacecraft to take place on August 31, 1996 on a Proton launch vehicle.

LAUNCH AND PROPOSED USE

Barring in-orbit contingencies in the present Inmarsat space segment prior to launch, the Inmarsat-3 (F-2) spacecraft will be located at 15.5° W.L. and will serve as the primary Inmarsat

The Commission has authorized COMSAT to participate in Inmarsat's procurement of the first five Inmarsat-3 satellites. See Communications Satellite Corp., 7 FCC Rcd 6278 (1992); Comsat Corp., Memorandum Opinion and Order (DA 96-742), released May 13, 1996.

operational satellite for the Atlantic Ocean Region-East (AOR-East) to support Inmarsat maritime, aeronautical, and land mobile satellite services in that region. It will be backed up by the Inmarsat-2 (F-2) satellite located at 17° W. L., which will serve as the primary spare for the AOR-East.

TESTING

The spacecraft will be placed directly into geostationary orbit at 270° W.L. by the Proton launch vehicle. It will be drifted to a temporary location at 332° W.L. and the tests of the spacecraft bus will be conducted during that initial drift period. The communications payload tests will be conducted at the temporary location and are expected to take only about two weeks. After the tests have been successfully completed, the spacecraft will be drifted to its operating location at 15.5° W. L. in the AOR-East. The drift will take about 10 days after completion of the in-orbit tests.

COSTS

The estimated costs associated with the F-2 spacecraft are as follows:

	Real Year \$
Cost of spacecraft manufacture (including delivery price, engineering changes and amendments)	\$ 69.2 million
Launch support services	2.6 million
Performance incentives	25.2 million
Lease interest costs, capitalized ²	23.2 million
Launch services	35.5 million
Launch insurance	8.0 million
Consultancy	2.6 million
In-house costs	8.2 million
Total Inmarsat	\$174.5 million

Based on COMSAT's internal capitalization rate for the Inmarsat third generation satellite program.

Total COMSAT (based on current ownership share of 23%)

40.1 million

Accordingly COMSAT request such authority as may be necessary to participate in Inmarsat's launch of the Inmarsat-3 (F-2) satellite, to participate in the test program described herein, and to position the spacecraft at 15.5° West Longitude.

Respectfully submitted,

COMSAT CORPORATION
COMSAT Mobile Communications

By:

Robert A. Mansbach

Its Attorney

cc: Fern Jarmulnek Sylvia Lam