

EXHIBIT A

**FCC Form 312
Application of Yazmi USA, LLC
for Modification of License
Call Sign S2367
December 2014**

NARRATIVE STATEMENT

Yazmi USA, LLC ("Yazmi"), the licensee for the AfriStar satellite (hereinafter referred to as "AfriStar-1"), Call Sign S2367, currently operating at 21° East Longitude ("E.L."), hereby requests that the Commission modify the AfriStar-1 license by extending the license term for AfriStar-1 from January 6, 2015 to and through April 15, 2021. Grant of the requested extension will enable Yazmi to continue to utilize AfriStar-1 to provide service to its customers for the remainder of the satellite's useful life, and thus is in the public interest.

The authorization for AfriStar-1 was granted initially to AfriSpace, Inc. ("AfriSpace") on December 17, 1999 (IBFS File Nos. SAT-LOA-19900723-00002 and SAT-AMD-19990125-00016). On January 6, 2000, AfriSpace certified to the Commission that the authorized satellite was on station and in conformity with the authorized terms and conditions.¹ This certification initiated a ten-year license term that was automatically extended to fifteen years by the Commission's 2003 Space Station Licensing Reform decision in IB Docket No. 02-34. Yazmi acquired the satellite licenses initially held by AfriSpace – including the license for AfriStar-1 – in 2010.²

Satellite Health:

Telemetry, tracking, and command ("TT&C") functions for the AfriStar-1 satellite are currently being performed from Intelsat's primary East Coast Operations Center in Tysons Corner, Virginia and the redundant West Coast Center in Long Beach, California. Health Status reports are published monthly and combined into Semi-Annual and Annual Reports. The most recent Semi-Annual Operations Report, covering the period January 1st through November 30th, 2014, indicates that all satellite subsystems are fully functional. The reported solar array power degradation is about 1% from last year, which is consistent with the expected natural degradation of the solar cells' performance.

Inclined Orbit Operation and End-of-Life Considerations:

Yazmi intends to cease north-south station-keeping at the end of March, 2015, thereby extending the satellite's useful life through April 2021. Yazmi will provide the

¹ See Letter dated January 6, 2000, from T. Giunta, Counsel for AfriSpace, to Secretary, FCC, in File No. SAT-19990723-00002.

² AfriSpace, Inc. Debtor-in-Possession, Consent to Assignment, Radio Station Authorization, File No.: SAT-ASG-20100604-00123 (granted July 29, 2010).

Commission notice of this change in the manner specified in Section 25.280 of the Commission's Rules at the appropriate time.

Yazmi intends to follow the U.S. Government Standard Practices guidelines regarding post-mission disposal of space structures, and the more recent FCC Order on Orbital Debris.

Specifically, Yazmi plans to dispose of the AfriStar-1 spacecraft at the end of its mission life by maneuvering it into a storage orbit above geosynchronous Earth orbit, and has computed the recommended minimum increase in the spacecraft perigee altitude according to the formula developed by the IADC, namely:

$235 \text{ km} + (1000 C_r * A/m)$, where:

C_r is the solar radiation pressure coefficient, and
 A/m is the aspect area (m^2) to dry mass ratio.

For AfriStar-1, the product ($C_r * A$), defined by the Spacecraft manufacturer as the "mean effective area as seen from the sun," is 68.5 m^2 , and the predicted mass at end-of-life is 1279 kg. Accordingly, the estimated minimum increase in perigee altitude is 288.6 km.

Yazmi calculates that AfriStar-1 has sufficient fuel to provide reliable service during the proposed license term extension and to execute end-of-life maneuvers that will place the satellite in a disposal altitude described above, barring a catastrophic failure of satellite components. Yazmi estimates that about 6 kg of propellant will be required for the orbit raising operation, and will keep that amount in reserve.

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In sum, extending the AfriStar-1 license term to and through April 15, 2021 will facilitate continuity of service Yazmi provides over the satellite, and is consistent with the fuel budget and health of the satellite. Accordingly, grant of this license extension application is in the public interest.