



Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, DC 20554

International Bureau

September 22, 2010

Donald Jansky  
1120 19<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Suite 333  
Washington, DC 20036-3614

Re: Hispamar Satélites, S.A., IBFS File Nos. SAT-PPL-20090806-00081; SAT-PPL-20100506-00093 (Call Sign: S2813)

Dear Mr. Jansky:

On October 15, 2009, the Satellite Division granted the request of Hispamar Satélites, S.A. (Hispamar) to add the Amazonas-2 satellite to the Commission's Permitted Space Station List at the 61° W.L. orbital location (IBFS File No. SAT-PPL-20090806-00081). On May 6, 2010, Hispamar filed a petition to modify that listing by adding direct-to-home service to its permitted operations (IBFS File No. SAT-PPL-20100506-00093). As part of its petition granted on October 15, 2009 (the "original petition"), Hispamar stated that, at the end-of-life of the satellite, it would "ensure the removal of all stored energy on the spacecraft by ... venting pressurized systems ... ." <sup>1</sup> It has subsequently come to our attention, based upon public sources, that Amazonas-2 utilizes an EADS Astrium S.A. Eurostar 3000 bus. <sup>2</sup> According to publically available information, this bus is not designed to vent all pressure vessels at end of life. <sup>3</sup> Specifically, that information indicates that the helium tanks on board the Eurostar 3000 bus are sealed by firing a pyrotechnic valve following transfer of the satellite to geostationary orbit. As a result, any remaining helium cannot be vented at end of life.

Accordingly, we request that Hispamar clarify whether the statement in its May 6, 2010 application was correct. If the information provided in that application was correct, please file a letter responding to this letter in the above-referenced files, as well as in IB Docket No. 02-54 (Mitigation of Orbital Debris). <sup>4</sup> If the information provided in the original petition was not correct, Hispamar must amend its pending modification petition, IBFS File No. SAT-PPL-20100506-0093, to correct the error. In such a case, Hispamar must also request a modification

---

<sup>1</sup> Hispamar Satélites, S.A., Application for Authority to add the Amazonas-2 satellite to the Commission's Permitted Space Station List, IBFS File No. SAT-PPL-20090806-00081, Attachment titled "Section 25.114(d) Technical Information" at un-numbered page 6, section 14.2. (filed Aug. 6, 2009).

<sup>2</sup> See eg. <http://www.astrium.eads.net/en/programme/amazonas-2.html>. In its 2009 application, Hispamar stated that the spacecraft manufacturer was EADS Astrium S.A. but did not specify that it was a Eurostar 3000 bus. Hispamar Satélites, S.A., Application for Authority to add the Amazonas-2 satellite to the Commission's Permitted Space Station List, IBFS File No. SAT-PPL-20090806-00081, Annex 2.

<sup>3</sup> See Letter from Karis A. Hastings on behalf of the Satellite Industry Association to Marlene H. Dortch, FCC, dated October 29, 2009, in IB Docket 02-54, at 3.

<sup>4</sup> The letter may be filed electronically in IB Docket No. 02-54 using the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS), which is available online at <http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/ecfs/>.



of its existing authorization, IBFS File No. SAT-PPL-20090806-00081, because the orbital debris plan that was submitted and approved as part of the authorization has materially changed. In any such letter or amendment, Hispamar must describe the process by which it verified the accuracy of statements in its original application. As part of any amendment or modification request, Hispamar must provide the mass of any sealed pressurant that will be left in Amazonas-2 at end-of-life and the volume in which that mass is contained. Hispamar may also wish to provide any information that in its view might support waiver of Section 25.283(c) of the Commission's rules.

Because several pending applications for earth stations that would access the Amazonas-2 satellite rely upon the information Hispamar filed in File No. SAT-PPL-20090806-00081, a copy of this letter will be placed in those files.<sup>5</sup>

We request that Hispamar respond to this letter by October 21, 2010. Failure to do so may result in the dismissal of Hispamar's pending modification petition in its entirety pursuant to Section 24.112(c) of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 25.112(c).

Sincerely,



Robert G. Nelson  
Chief, Satellite Division  
International Bureau



Cc: Timothy Bransford, Counsel to NewCom International, Inc.  
John Poindexter, Counsel to Upstream Investments, LLC  
Marcshia Scioville, Counsel to Sims Satellite and Data Corp.

---

<sup>5</sup> See NewCom International Inc., Application for Authority to Transmit to Amazonas-2, IBFS File No. SES-MFS-20100430-00497 (filed Apr. 30, 2010); Upstream Investments, LLC, Application to Modify Ku-band VSAT Network E090095, IBFS File No. SES-MOD-20100601-00666 (filed June 1, 2010), Upstream Investments, LLC, Application to Amend Ku-band VSAT Network E090095, IBFS File No. SES-AMD-20100809-01021 (filed Aug. 9, 2010); Sims Satellite and Data Corp., Application for Authority to Add Amazonas-2 as Point of Communication, IBFS File No. SES-AFS-20100818-01054 (filed Aug. 18, 2010).