



File # SAT-STA-20050901-00171

Call Sign S2110 Grant Date 9/2/05

(or other identifier) Approved by OMB

From 9/2/05 Term Dates To: 10/2/05 3060-0678

Approved: [Signature] Chief Satellite Engineering Branch

Date & Time Filed: Sep 1 2005 6:08:39:380PM  
File Number: SAT-STA-20050901-00171  
Callsign:

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
APPLICATION FOR SPACE STATION SPECIAL TEMPORARY AUTHORITY  
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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Enter a description of this application to identify it on the main menu:  
Iridium - Request for STA to Provide MSS in the 1616-1618.25 MHz Band

I. Applicant

<b>Name:</b>	Iridium Satellite LLC	<b>Phone Number:</b>	301-571-6200
<b>DBA Name:</b>		<b>Fax Number:</b>	301-571-6250
<b>Street:</b>	6701 Democracy Blvd.	<b>E-Mail:</b>	olga.madruga-forti@iridium.com
	Suite 500		
<b>City:</b>	Bethesda	<b>State:</b>	MD
<b>Country:</b>	USA	<b>Zipcode:</b>	20817 -
<b>Attention:</b>	Ms. Olga Madruga-Forti		

2. Contact

<b>Name:</b>	Jennifer D. Hindin	<b>Phone Number:</b>	202-719-4975
<b>Company:</b>	Wiley Rein & Fielding LLP	<b>Fax Number:</b>	202-719-7049
<b>Street:</b>	1776 K Street, NW	<b>E-Mail:</b>	jhindin@wrf.com
<b>City:</b>	Washington	<b>State:</b>	DC
<b>Country:</b>	USA	<b>Zipcode:</b>	20006 -
<b>Attention:</b>	Ms. Jennifer D. Hindin	<b>Relationship:</b>	Legal Counsel

(If your application is related to an application filed with the Commission, enter the file number below.)

3. Reference File Number

4a. Is a fee submitted with this application?

- If Yes, complete and attach FCC Form 159. If No, indicate reason for fee exemption (see 47 C.F.R. Section 1.1114).
- Governmental Entity     Noncommercial educational licensee
- Other (please explain):

4b. Fee Classification    CXW – Space Station (Non-Geostationary)

5. Type Request

- Change Station Location                       Extend Expiration Date                       Other

6. Temporary Orbit Location

7. Requested Extended Expiration Date

8. Description (If the complete description does not appear in this box, please go to the end of the form to view it in its entirety.)

Iridium Satellite LLC hereby requests Special Temporary Authorization, for 30 days, to test and commence Mobile Satellite Service in the 1616-1618.25 MHz band in order to accommodate the increased demand for telephone service in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

9. By checking Yes, the undersigned certifies that neither applicant nor any other party to the application is subject to a denial of Federal benefits that includes FCC benefits pursuant to Section 5301 of the Anti-Drug Act of 1988, 21 U.S.C. Section 862, because of a conviction for possession or distribution of a controlled substance. See 47 CFR 1.2002(b) for the meaning of "party to the application" for these purposes.  Yes  No

10. Name of Person Signing  
Michael R. Deutschman

11. Title of Person Signing  
Chief Counsel and Chief Administrative Officer

12. Please supply any need attachments.

Attachment 1: Attachment 1

Attachment 2:

Attachment 3:

**WILLFUL FALSE STATEMENTS MADE ON THIS FORM ARE PUNISHABLE BY FINE AND / OR IMPRISONMENT  
(U.S. Code, Title 18, Section 1001), AND/OR REVOCATION OF ANY STATION AUTHORIZATION  
(U.S. Code, Title 47, Section 312(a)(1)), AND/OR FORFEITURE (U.S. Code, Title 47, Section 503).**

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September 1, 2005

Jennifer D. Hindin  
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**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

Hon. Kevin J. Martin  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: Iridium Satellite LLC  
Request for Special Temporary Authorization to Test and Commence  
Mobile Satellite Service in the 1616-1618.25 MHz Band**

Dear Chairman Martin:

Iridium Satellite LLC ("Iridium"), by its attorneys and pursuant to 25 C.F.R. § 25.120, hereby requests Special Temporary Authorization ("STA"), for 30 days, to test and then commence Mobile Satellite Service ("MSS") in the 1616-1618.25 MHz band. Grant of the requested STA will serve the public interest in accommodating the dramatic increase in demand for telephone service in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

As the FCC is aware, Hurricane Katrina caused extraordinary devastation along the Gulf coastline, including damage to communications infrastructure in the region. Public safety officials, relief organizations, businesses and the public urgently need reliable telephone service as they respond to the crisis. Iridium's mobile satellite service is ideally suited to meet this need.

However, Iridium's current MSS allocation in the 1618.25-1626.5 MHz band may prove insufficient to handle growing call volumes. In the last week, traffic from the region over Iridium's system has increased 3000 percent (not including military customers in the region). Moreover, the sudden spike in the distribution of Iridium's satellite phones to the Gulf region will produce further demand as the additional phones are brought into use.

Iridium seeks to utilize the 1616-1618.25 MHz band on a temporary basis to meet this demand. Specifically, Iridium seeks immediately to test MSS operations in the band. Upon successful conclusion of the tests, over the Labor Day weekend, Iridium plans to commence service. At the conclusion of the 30-day period, Iridium will assess the need for a further STA to operate in the 1616-1618.25 MHz band.

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The 1616-1618.25 MHz band is well-suited for the proposed operations. The band already is allocated for MSS. Moreover, the Commission has recognized “that Iridium’s current TDMA MSS satellite system is capable of operating on frequencies as low as 1616 MHz.”<sup>1</sup>

In addition, grant of this STA request is not expected to cause harmful interference to the Globalstar satellite system, which is currently licensed to occupy the same spectrum. To the extent that harmful interference occurs, Iridium understands and accepts that Iridium may be required by the FCC to cease operating in the 1616-1618.25 MHz frequency band.

Finally, grant of the requested STA would be consistent with FCC precedent. In the past, the FCC has granted Iridium STA to use additional L-band frequencies to support the vital communications needs of the United States.<sup>2</sup> In those instances, the FCC expressly determined that “allowing Iridium to provide essential communications services” would “serve the public interest.”<sup>3</sup> Given the extraordinary circumstances caused by Hurricane Katrina and the urgent demand for telephone service, prompt grant of the requested STA likewise would serve the public interest.

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<sup>1</sup> *Review of the Spectrum Sharing Plan Among Non-Geostationary Satellite Orbit Mobile Satellite Service Systems in the 1.6/2.4 GHz Bands*, 19 FCC Rcd 13356, ¶ 96 (2004).

<sup>2</sup> *Iridium Constellation, LLC and Iridium US LP, Request for Special Temporary Authorization*, 18 FCC Rcd 11564, ¶ 10 (Int’l Bur. 2003).

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*

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Please direct any questions regarding this matter to the undersigned.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jennifer D. Hindin

Jennifer D. Hindin

Amy E. Bender

*Counsel to Iridium Satellite LLC*

cc: Daniel Gonzalez  
Emily Willeford  
Donald Abelson  
Anna Gomez  
Cassandra Thomas  
Robert Nelson  
Chip Fleming  
Kathryn Medley