

Date & Time Filed: Nov 17 2010 6:05:00:770PM
File Number: SAT-STA-20101117-00238
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:
S2134 (AMC-2) STA Request to Operate C-Band Payload

1. Applicant

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Street: 2001 L Street, NW E-Mail: daniel.mah@ses.com
Suite 800
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Country: USA Zipcode: 20036
Attention: Daniel C. H. Mah

With Conditions



File # SAT-STA-20101117-00238
Call Sign S2134 Grant Date 11/19/10
(or other identifier)
Term Dates From 11/19/10 To: +30 days
Approved: Kathryn Medley
Kathryn Medley, Chief Satellite Engrs. Br.

Attachment to Grant
IBFS File No. SAT-STA-20101117-00238
Call Sign S2134
November 19, 2010

The request of SES Americom, Inc. (SES) for special temporary authority, IBFS File No. SAT-STA-20101117-00238, to operate the C-band frequencies of the AMC-2 space station (Call Sign S2134) with the opposite polarization sense than that authorized in the current AMC-2 authorization¹ is GRANTED. SES is authorized, for a period of 30-days beginning November 17, 2010, to operate the AMC-2 space station in the 3700-4200 MHz (space-to-Earth) and the 5925-6425 MHz (Earth-to-space) frequency bands with the opposite polarization sense than that previously authorized. This authorization shall be in accordance with the technical specifications set forth in SES's application, Federal Communication Commission (Commission) rules and the following conditions:

1. SES is required to accept interference from other lawfully operating space stations or radio communication systems.
2. In the event of any harmful interference to other lawfully operating space stations or radio communication systems, SES shall inform the Commission, in writing, immediately of such an event.
3. Any action taken or expense incurred as a result of operations pursuant to this special temporary authority is solely at SES's own risk.
4. This authorization is not one relating to an "activity of a continuing nature" for purposes of Section 1.62 of the Commission's rules and Section 558(c) of the Administrative Procedure Act. Continuation of operations beyond the term of this authorization will require prior affirmative action by the Commission.
5. This action is issued pursuant to Section 0.261 of the Commission's rules on delegated authority, 47 C.F.R. §2.261, and is effective immediately.

"With Conditions"



File # SAT-STA-20101117-00238
Call Sign S2134 Grant Date 11/19/10
(or other identifier)
Term Dates
From 11/19/10 To: +30 days
Approved: Kathryn Medley

Kathryn Medley
Chief, Satellite Engrg Br.

¹ See File No. SAT-MOD-20100324-00056, Call Sign 2134, grant -stamped June 21, 2010.

2. Contact	
Name:	Karis A. Hastings, Esq.
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State:	DC
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Relationship:	
(If your application is related to an application filed with the Commission, enter either the file number or the IB Submission ID of the related application. Please enter only one.)	
3. Reference File Number or Submission ID	
4a. Is a fee submitted with this application?	
<input checked="" type="radio"/> If Yes, complete and attach FCC Form 159. If No, indicate reason for fee exemption (see 47 C.F.R. Section 1.1114).	
<input type="radio"/> Governmental Entity <input type="radio"/> Noncommercial educational licensee	
<input type="radio"/> Other (please explain):	
4b. Fee Classification CRY - Space Station (Geostationary)	
5. Type Request	
<input type="radio"/> Change Station Location	<input type="radio"/> Extend Expiration Date
	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Other
7. Requested Extended Expiration Date	
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.)

SES Americom, Inc. seeks special temporary authority for a period of 30 days to operate the C-band communications and TT&C frequencies on AMC-2, call sign S2134, using the opposite polarizations from what is specified in the current license to allow use of AMC-2 to mitigate interference from Galaxy 15.

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
Daniel C. H. Mah

11. Title of Person Signing
Regulatory Counsel

12. Please supply any need attachments.

Attachment 1: STA Request

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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**Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of)	
)	
SES AMERICOM, INC.)	File No. SAT-STA-_____
)	Call Sign S2134
Request for Special Temporary Authority to)	
Operate AMC-2 C-Band Payload)	

REQUEST OF SES AMERICOM, INC.

SES Americom, Inc. (“SES Americom,” doing business as “SES WORLD SKIES”¹), hereby respectfully requests special temporary authority (“STA”) for a period of up to 30 days to operate the C-band frequencies (including the C-band TT&C frequencies) on the AMC-2 hybrid satellite with polarizations that are the opposite of what is specified in the current AMC-2 license. Grant of the requested STA will serve the public interest by facilitating possible use of the AMC-2 C-band payload in efforts to mitigate interference to the AMC-18 satellite as Galaxy 15 approaches and passes through the AMC-18 stationkeeping volume.

Earlier this year, the Commission granted SES WORLD SKIES’ application for modification of the AMC-2 license to reassign the spacecraft from the nominal 101° W.L. orbital location to 78.95° W.L.² In the AMC-2 Modification, SES WORLD SKIES specified that the polarizations of the C-band transponders and TT&C frequencies at 78.95° W.L. would be

¹ SES WORLD SKIES is the commercial brand name for the integrated operations of two indirect subsidiaries of SES S.A.: SES Americom and New Skies Satellites B.V. (effective January 1, 2009). The brand name does not affect the underlying legal entities that hold Commission authorizations or U.S. market access rights.

² File No. SAT-MOD-20100324-00056, Call Sign S2134 (the “AMC-2 Modification”), grant-stamped June 21, 2010.

reversed from the polarizations used at 101° W.L.³ Similarly, in the Schedule S supplied with the AMC-2 Modification, SES WORLD SKIES provided specific polarization information that likewise indicated that the C-band polarizations at 78.95° W.L. would be the opposite of those used at 101° W.L.⁴

The AMC-2 satellite is equipped with polarization switches that would permit SES WORLD SKIES to conform the C-band transponder and TT&C polarizations to those described in the AMC-2 Modification. However, SES WORLD SKIES is concerned that switching the polarization could disrupt the operations of the spacecraft. The polarization switches are potential single points of failure. If a switch were to fail in an “in-between” configuration, it could jeopardize the ability to use either polarization of C-band frequencies on the satellite.

As the Commission is aware, Galaxy 15 (licensed to PanAmSat Licensee Corp., call sign S2387) suffered an anomaly on or about April 5 and is drifting eastward in an uncontrolled manner with its payload active. Galaxy 15 is nearing AMC-18 (call sign S2713), a C-band satellite licensed to SES Satellites (Gibraltar) Limited (“SES Gibraltar”), a wholly-owned subsidiary of SES Americom. AMC-18 is Gibraltar-licensed and on the Commission’s Permitted Space Station List, authorized to serve the U.S. from 104.95° W.L. Galaxy 15 is expected to pass through AMC-18’s station-keeping box on or about November 24. Because Galaxy 15 operates on the same C-band frequencies as AMC-18, the potential for harmful interference into AMC-18 operations is significant as Galaxy 15 approaches.

³ See AMC-2 Modification, Technical Appendix at 2.

⁴ AMC-2 Modification, Schedule S, Item S9.

To mitigate the interference risk, SES Gibraltar plans to maneuver AMC-18 within a larger stationkeeping volume to maintain a minimum distance between AMC-18 and Galaxy 15. During the time these maneuvers are taking place, AMC-18 customers may need to re-direct their transmissions to another spacecraft so that they can be relayed to AMC-18 using a ground antenna with a large diameter and advanced tracking capability. This double-hop approach will reduce the risk of interference, while avoiding the need for repointing the hundreds of antennas that receive signals from AMC-18.

SES WORLD SKIES anticipates that the AMC-2 C-band payload may be needed as a relay satellite for AMC-18 C-band traffic, as part of the interference mitigation measures relating to Galaxy 15's uncontrolled drift. In order to ensure that AMC-2 is available for this purpose and to mitigate the technical risk of a polarization switch failure, SES WORLD SKIES seeks temporary authority to operate the AMC-2 C-band payload and TT&C frequencies without switching the polarization from the configuration used on the satellite at 101° W.L. In all other respects, operation of the satellite will conform to the terms of the current AMC-2 license. Grant of the requested authority will serve the public interest by allowing use of AMC-2 to facilitate service continuity for customers of the AMC-18 spacecraft.

Operation of AMC-2 at 78.95° W.L. as proposed herein will not harm other operators. SES WORLD SKIES submitted an interference analysis with the AMC-2 Modification showing that its planned operations were compatible with adjacent satellites. The analysis did not rely on polarization diversity to reach this conclusion.⁵ As a result, the proposed

⁵ AMC-2 Modification, Technical Appendix, Annex 3 at 33. As described in the interference analysis, polarization is primarily relevant only with respect to analog video channels, which are typically coordinated on a case-by-case basis. SES WORLD SKIES does not seek authority to use AMC-2 for analog video – the traffic being relayed to AMC-18 will consist solely of digital video and data.

operation during the period of the STA will be consistent with the assumptions underlying the interference analysis in the AMC-2 Modification and the conclusions of that analysis remain valid. In addition, AMC-2 operations under this STA will conform to the terms of existing and future coordination agreements applicable to its operations at the nominal 79° W.L. orbital location.⁶

For the foregoing reasons, SES WORLD SKIES seeks STA to permit temporary operation of the AMC-2 C-band payload and TT&C frequencies with polarizations that do not conform to the terms of its current license.

Respectfully submitted,

SES AMERICOM, INC.

By: /s/ Daniel C.H. Mah

Of Counsel

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Dated: November 17, 2010

⁶ SES WORLD SKIES notes that the Venesat-1 satellite operates at 78° W.L. under a Uruguayan ITU network filing that is lower in priority than the U.S. ITU filing at the nominal 79° W.L. location.