

File # SAT-STA-20200319-00027
Call Sign S2379 Grant Date April 9 2020
(or other identifier) Term Dates
From April 21 2020 To: 60 Days
Approved: [Signature]

Approved by OMB
3060-0678



Date & Time Filed: Mar 19 2020 3:34:38:716PM
File Number: SAT-STA-20200319-00027
Call sign:

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:
Request for STA to relocate AMC-8 and operate it at 135 W.L.

I. Applicant

Name:	SES Americom, Inc.	Phone Number:	202-478-7143
DBA Name:		Fax Number:	202-478-7111
Street:	1129 20th Street NW Suite 1000	E-Mail:	petra.vorwig@ses.com
City:	Washington	State:	DC
Country:	USA	Zipcode:	20036
Attention:	Ms Petra A Vorwig		

ATTACHMENT TO GRANT
SES Americom, Inc./Alascom, Inc.
IBFS File No. SAT-STA-20200319-00027

IBFS File No(s):	SAT-STA-20200319-00027	<p>GRANTED – With Conditions</p>  <p>International Bureau Satellite Division</p>
Licensee/Grantee:	SES Americom, Inc./Alascom, Inc.	
Call Sign:	S2379	
Satellite Name:	AMC-8/Aurora III (AMC-8)	
Orbital Location: (required station-keeping tolerance)	135.0° W.L. (± 0.05 degrees)	
Administration:	United States of America	
Nature of Service:	Fixed-Satellite Service (FSS) Telemetry, Tracking, & Command (TT&C)	
Scope of Grant:	Special temporary authority for a period of 60 days to (1) conduct TT&C operations necessary to drift AMC-8 from the 139.0° W.L. orbital location to the 135.0° W.L. orbital location and maintain it upon arrival at that location; (2) operate AMC-8 to provide fixed-satellite service in the conventional C-band frequencies upon arrival at the 135.0° W.L. orbital location.	
Previous Grant(s):	<p>Authorization to extend the license for the AMC-8/Aurora III satellite and authorization to retire the satellite at its end of life. <i>See</i> IBFS File No. SAT-MOD-20151222-00086.</p> <p>Authorization to provide direct-to-home services. <i>See</i> IBFS File No. SAT-MOD-20021108-00211.</p> <p>Special temporary authorization to conduct in-orbit testing of GE-8/Aurora III at 146° W.L. before relocating to the assigned location of 139° W.L. <i>See</i> IBFS File No. SAT-STA-20001001-00143.</p>	
Service Area(s):	United States, Canada, and the Caribbean	
Frequencies:	<p>Fixed-Satellite Service (FSS) 3700-4200 MHz (space-to-Earth) 5925-6425 MHz (Earth-to-space)</p> <p><u>Telemetry, Tracking, & Command (TT&C)</u> 3700.5 MHz and 4199.5 MHz (space-to-Earth) 6423.5 MHz (Earth-to-space)</p>	
<p>Unless otherwise specified herein, operations under this grant must comport with the legal and technical specifications set forth by the applicant or petitioner and with Federal Communication Commission's rules not waived herein. This grant is also subject to the following conditions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SES/Alascom must comply with the terms and conditions of the authorization for the AMC-8 space station adopted in IBFS File No. SAT-MOD-20151222-00086. 2. SES/Alascom must coordinate the operations of AMC-8 with existing geostationary space stations to ensure that no unacceptable interference results from its operations during drift from the 139.0° W.L. orbital location to the 135.0° W.L. orbital location. 3. SES/Alascom must operate only the TT&C frequencies authorized for AMC-8 during the space station's drift from the 139.0° W.L. orbital location to the 135.0° W.L. orbital location 4. While at the 135.0° W.L. orbital location, SES/Alascom must maintain the AMC-8 space station with an east/west longitudinal station-keeping tolerance of +/- 0.05 degrees. 5. In connection with the provision of service in any particular country, SES/Alascom is obliged to comply with the applicable laws, regulations, rules, and licensing procedures of that country. 6. SES/Alascom must operate AMC-8 at the 135.0° W.L. orbital location in compliance with all existing or 		

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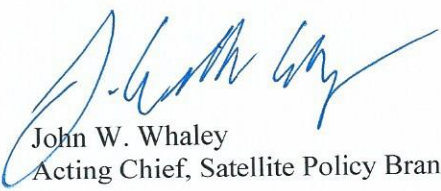
future coordination agreements for this location. In the absence of a coordination agreement, such communications must comply with applicable provisions of the ITU Radio Regulations as the Commission cannot guarantee the success of the required coordinations.

7. The operations of AMC-8 and associated earth stations must comport with the applicable uplink and downlink limits in 47 CFR § 25.140(a)(3) of the Commission's rules, unless SES/Alascom coordinates any non-conforming operations with the operations of U.S.-licensed geostationary orbit space stations within 6 degrees of the 135.0° W.L. orbital location. SES/Alascom must also comport with the maximum power limits indicated in existing or future coordination agreements at 135.0° W.L. Non-conforming operation must also be coordinated with respect to those operations of non-U.S.-licensed space stations within 6 degrees of 135.0° W.L involving approved communications with U.S.-licensed earth stations.
8. Any action taken or expense incurred as a result of this special temporary authority is solely at SES/Alascom's own risk.

Licensee/grantee is afforded thirty (30) days from the date of release of this action to decline the grant as conditioned. Failure to respond within this period will constitute formal acceptance of the grant as conditioned.

This action is taken pursuant to Section 0.261 of the Commission's rules on delegated authority, 47 CFR § 0.261, and is effective upon release.

Space station licenses are subject to conditions specified in Section 309(h) of the Communications Act of 1934, amended, 47 U.S.C. § 309(h).

Action Date:	April 9, 2020	
Term Dates	From: April 21, 2020	To: period of 60 days
Approved:	 John W. Whaley Acting Chief, Satellite Policy Branch	

2. Contact	
Name: Karis Hastings	Phone Number: 202-599-0975
Company: SatCom Law LLC	Fax Number:
Street: 1317 F Street, N.W. Suite 400	E-Mail: karis@satcomlaw.com
City: Washington	State: DC
Country: USA	Zipcode: 20004 -
Attention:	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 checked="" type="radio"/> Change Station Location	<input type="radio"/> Extend Expiration Date <input type="radio"/> Other
6. Temporary Orbit Location 135 W.L.	
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. and Alascom, Inc. hereby request special temporary authority for a period of 60 days beginning no later than April 21, 2020, to permit relocation of the AMC-8/Aurora III C-band fixed-satellite space station from 139 W.L. to 135 W.L.

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"; party to the application; for these purposes.

Yes No

10. Name of Person Signing
Petra A. Vorwig

11. Title of Person Signing
Vice President, Legal & Regulatory Affairs

12. Please supply any need attachments.

Attachment 1: Narrative

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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THE FOREGOING NOTICE IS REQUIRED BY THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT OF 1995, PUBLIC LAW 104-13, OCTOBER 1, 1995, 44 U.S.C. SECTION 3507.

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

In the Matter of)	
)	
SES AMERICOM, INC.)	File No. SAT-STA-_____
)	Call Sign S2379
ALASCOM, INC.)	
)	
Request for Special Temporary Authority to)	
Relocate the AMC-8/Aurora III Fixed-Satellite)	
Space Station to, and Operate it at, 135° W.L.)	

JOINT REQUEST OF SES AMERICOM, INC. and ALASCOM, INC

SES Americom, Inc. ("SES") and Alascom, Inc. ("Alascom") (collectively, the "Licensees") respectfully request special temporary authority ("STA") for a period of 60 days beginning no later than April 21, 2020, to permit relocation of the AMC-8/Aurora III ("AMC-8") C-band fixed-satellite space station from 139° W.L. to 135° W.L. Specifically, the Licensees seek authority to: (1) drift AMC-8 from its current position at 139° W.L. to 135° W.L. and maintain it at that location using C-band frequencies for Telemetry, Tracking and Command ("TT&C");¹ and (2) operate AMC-8 in the conventional C-band frequencies at 135° W.L. The Licensees seek STA pending submission of and action on an application to modify the AMC-8

¹ The AMC-8 TT&C frequencies and nominal polarizations are as follows:

<u>Command:</u>	6423.5 MHz (Horizontal polarization; uplink)
<u>Telemetry:</u>	3700.5 MHz (Horizontal polarization; downlink; Vertical polarization during emergency operations), and 4199.5 MHz (Vertical polarization; downlink).

license to reassign the satellite.² Grant of the requested authority will serve the public interest by allowing SES to use AMC-8 to supplement the C-band capacity at 135° W.L.

AMC-8 currently operates in inclined orbit at 139° W.L.,³ where it is collocated with SES's AMC-18 C-band spacecraft. In response to customer demand, the Licensees propose to relocate AMC-8 to 135° W.L., where it will continue to operate in inclined orbit. SES operates the AMC-4 C/Ku-band satellite at 134.9° W.L., with an east-west stationkeeping tolerance of +/- 0.05 degrees.⁴ After its relocation, AMC-8 will be available to supplement the C-band capacity at the nominal 135° W.L. orbital location.

In order to meet customer requirements, the Licensees request STA to drift and operate AMC-8 pending submission of the underlying modification application and Commission action on that filing. Because AMC-18 will remain in service at 139° W.L., authorizing the AMC-8 move will not affect service to existing customers.

Grant of the requested authority to relocate AMC-8 will serve the public interest and is consistent with Commission precedent. The Commission has repeatedly observed that its policy is to allow "satellite operators to rearrange satellites in their fleet to reflect business and

² The modification application will also seek a further extension of the AMC-8 license term, which currently expires on June 30, 2020. *See* SES Americom, Inc. and Alascom, Inc., Call Sign S2379, File No. SAT-MOD-20151222-00086, granted Mar. 17, 2016.

³ *See* Letter of Karis A. Hastings, Counsel for SES Americom, Inc., to Marlene H. Dortch, Call Sign S2379, filed Nov. 13, 2019 (notifying the Commission that AMC-8 had commenced inclined orbit operations).

⁴ SES Americom, Inc., Call Sign S2135, File No. SAT-MOD-20170518-0073, granted July 31, 2017.

customer considerations where no public interest factors are adversely affected.”⁵ As the International Bureau has explained:

the Commission attempts, when possible, to leave spacecraft design decisions to the space station licensee because the licensee is in a better position to determine how to tailor its system to meet the particular needs of its customers. Consequently the Commission will generally grant a licensee’s request to modify its system, provided there are no compelling countervailing public interest considerations.⁶

Here, the proposed change will allow the Licensees to make efficient use of AMC-8 to respond to demand for C-band service at 135° W.L. Relocation of AMC-8 to 135° W.L. will not adversely affect other operators. Only the TT&C frequencies of AMC-8 will be used during the drift, and the Licensees will follow standard industry practices for coordination of TT&C transmissions while the satellite is being relocated.⁷ After AMC-8’s arrival at 135° W.L., SES will closely control AMC-4 and AMC-8 to ensure their safe joint operation.

⁵ *SES Americom, Inc.*, Order and Authorization, DA 06-757 (IB rel. Apr. 7, 2006) at 4, ¶ 8, citing *Amendment of the Commission’s Space Station Licensing Rules and Policies*, Second Report and Order, 18 FCC Rcd 12507, 12509, ¶ 7 (2003).

⁶ *AMSC Subsidiary Corp.*, Order and Authorization, DA 98-493, 13 FCC Rcd 12316, 12318, ¶ 8 (IB 1998) (footnote omitted).

⁷ The 24/7 point of contact for the proposed drift is the SES Payload Management Operations Centre (PMOC) in Woodbine, MD, 1 800 772 2363 or 1 410 970 7570; e-mail: PMOC@ses.com.

For the foregoing reasons, the Licensees respectfully request grant of STA to permit relocation of AMC-8 to, and operation of the satellite at, 135° W.L.

Respectfully submitted,

SES AMERICOM, INC.

By: /s/ Petra A. Vorwig

Petra A. Vorwig
Vice President, Legal & Regulatory Affairs
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1129 20th Street, N.W., Suite 1000
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ALASCOM, INC.

By: /s/ Teresa Jackson

Teresa Jackson
Assistant Vice President – Network Services
Vice President, Alascom, Inc.
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505 E Bluff Dr
Anchorage, AK 99501

Dated: March 19, 2020