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**Satellite Communications Leaders Gather
To Launch the Integral Satcom Initiative (ISI)**

Bologna (Italy) – On 19 July 2005, representatives of several prominent satellite industry companies and organizations met at European Commission premises in Brussels to take important steps toward the implementation of the “**Integral Satcom Initiative (ISI)**”, as one of the future European Technology Platforms in the 7th Framework Programme (FP7), which will drive European RTD initiatives in the period 2007-2013. Representatives from the European Commission and the European Space Agency brought their essential contributions to the meeting.

The ISI platform is designed to bring together for the first time in a unified forum all aspects related to satellite communications, including **mobile**, **broadband**, and **broadcasting** applications, as well as their future **convergence**, with the explicit purpose to foster the entire industrial sector and positively contribute to several EU policies. Leveraging on the pioneering work performed since 2001 in the Task Force on Advanced Satellite Mobile Systems (www.asms-tf.org), ISI brings together all interested stakeholders from industry, operators, service providers, and research institutions to work towards the definition of a **Strategic Vision Document** and **Research Agenda**, encompassing technical, regulatory, standardization, and financial issues. ISI intends to be a part of the European Space Programme, creating synergies with all of its elements (including navigation, remote sensing, and security), and to interact with other relevant Technology Platforms, such as eMobility (terrestrial mobile and wireless systems) and NEM (Networked Electronic Media).

Participants in yesterday's Brussels meeting discussed at length all implications of the ISI initiative, and converged to a **unanimous consensus** on the decision to launch this Technology Platform. Two events to progress the ISI works are planned for September 23rd in Brussels, and September 29th in Rome.

The meeting was chaired by Prof. Corazza and attended by representatives of Agilent Technologies; Alcatel Alenia Space; ASMS-TF; DLR; ESOA; ESYS; European Commission (DG INFSO); European Space Agency (Telecom Dept.); Eutelsat; Finmeccanica; Indra Espacio; Integrasys; Mavigex; MoSSA project; Nera Satcom; Newtec; Rose Vision; SatNEx project; SES-Global; Space Engineering; Space Hellas; Telespazio; Telenor; TriaGnoSys; University of Bologna; University of Surrey.