

# Introduction to the Space Data Association



## Secure World Foundation

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**3 Novembre 2011**



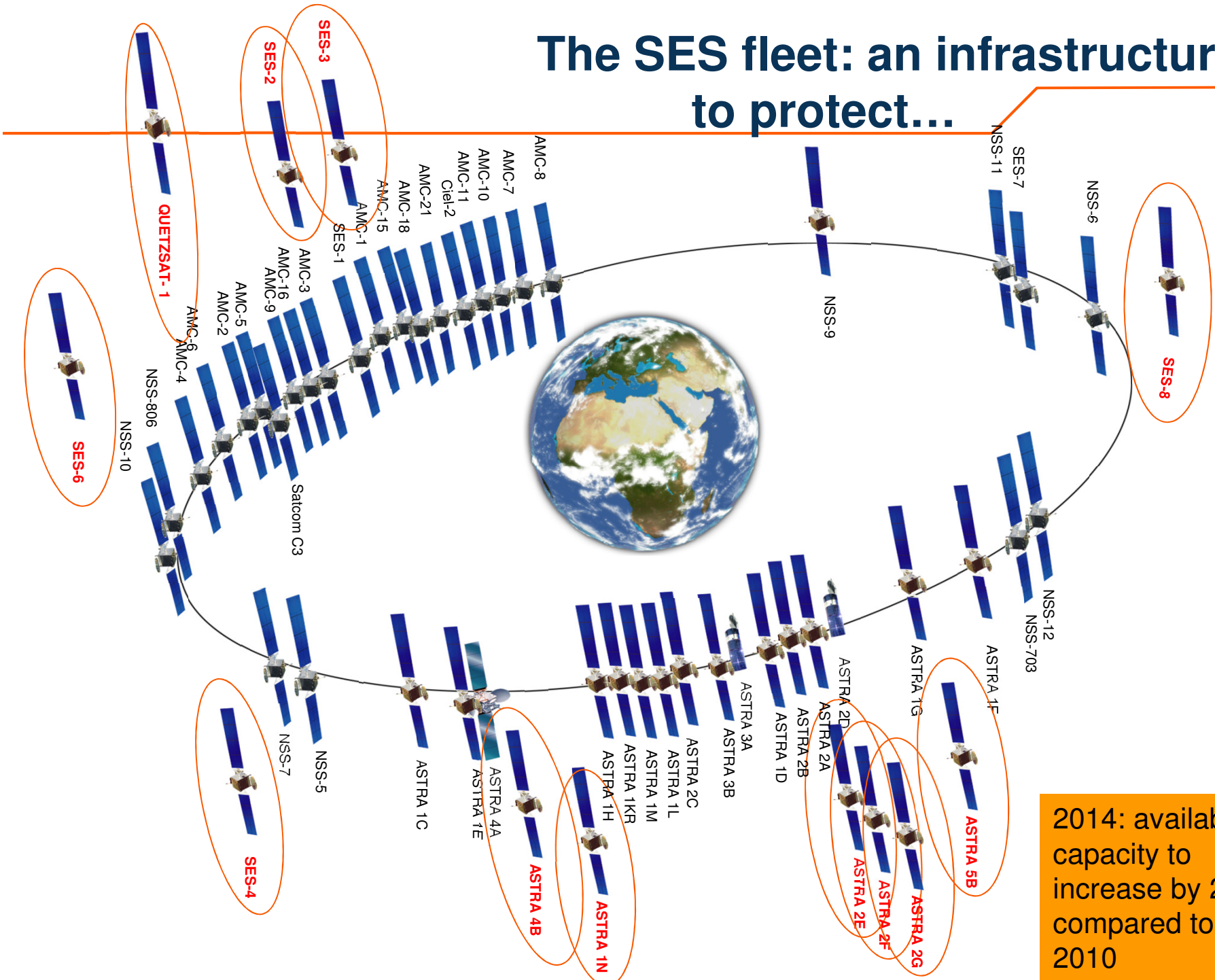
# SES – who we are

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- ▲ The world's pre-eminent satellite group
- ▲ 45 satellites: global fleet with optimal look angles and comprehensive landmass coverage, operated through our
  - fully-owned operating companies SES ASTRA, SES WORLD SKIES
  - Partially-owned CIEL, QuetzSat, O3b Networks
- ▲ Premier provider of transmission capacity
  - media distribution
  - connectivity
- ▲ Advanced satellite-based platforms and services for
  - media and government organisations
- ▲ Created in 1985 and based in Luxembourg, Europe
- ▲ 1,269 staff around the world
- ▲ Traded on Euronext Paris and Luxembourg stock exchanges (SESG)



# The SES fleet: an infrastructure to protect...

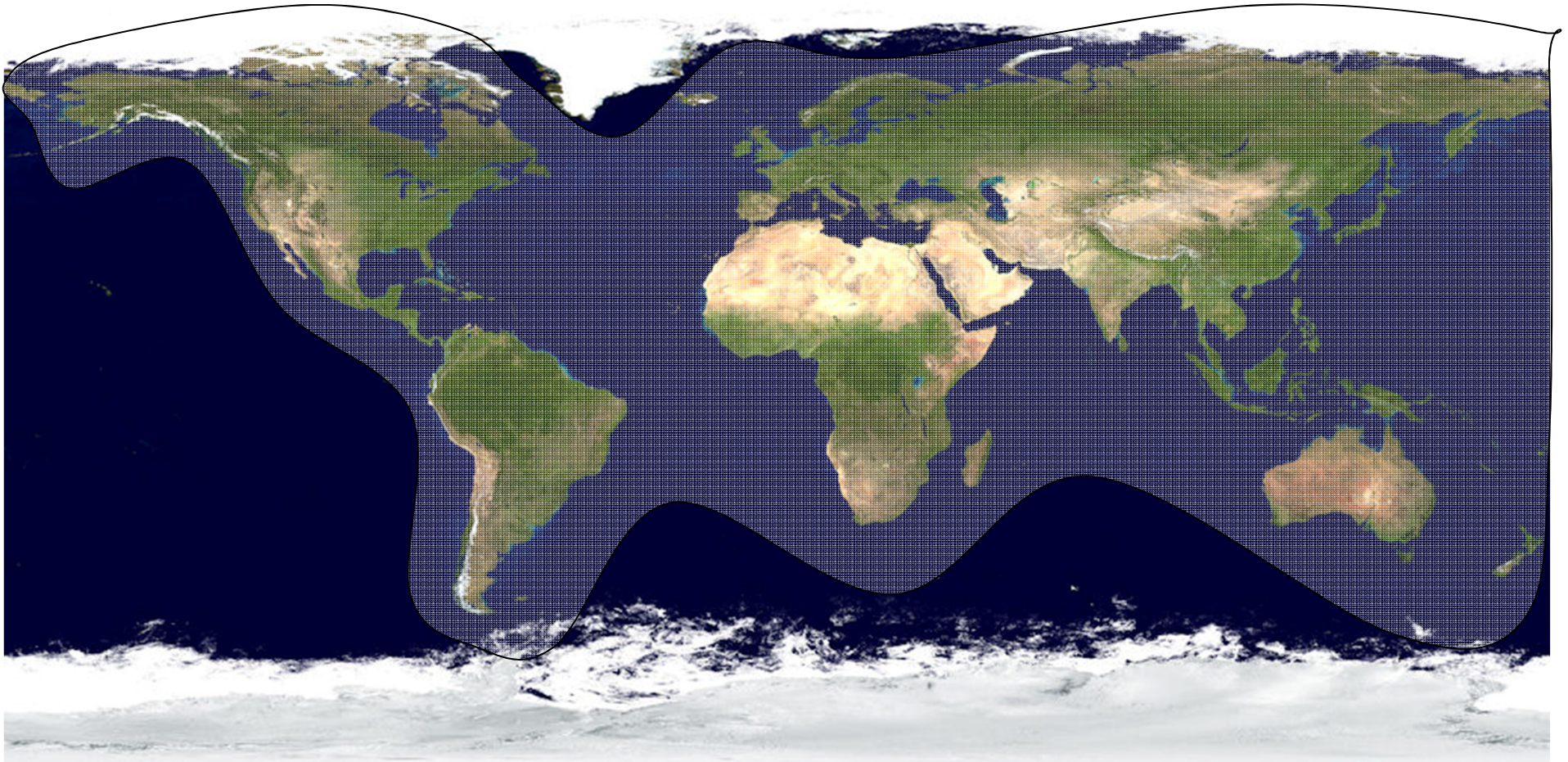


2014: available capacity to increase by 23% compared to YE 2010



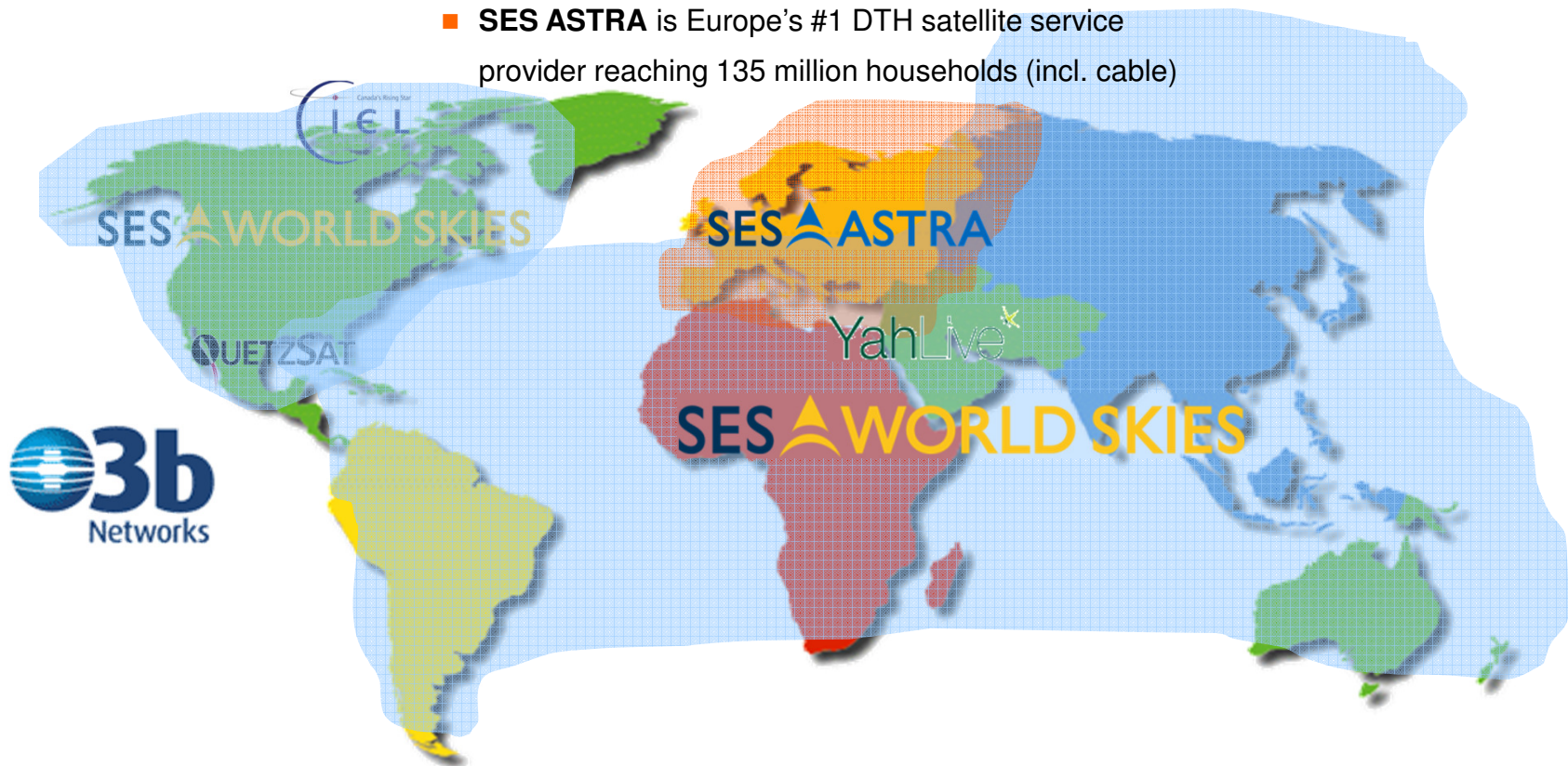
... which gives SES unrivalled global coverage...

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# Global reach, regional market focus

- **SES ASTRA** is Europe's #1 DTH satellite service provider reaching 135 million households (incl. cable)



- SES WORLD SKIES is a major player in broadcasting for US cable services reaching some 80 million US households.
- **SES WORLD SKIES** is also the premier provider of satellite communications services with more than 250 customers based in 80 countries. SES WORLD SKIES reaches 145 million DTH/cable households in the world.

# What is the Space Data Association?

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- ▲ **The Space Data Association (SDA) is a not-for-profit association formed by and for satellite operators to provide reliable and efficient data-sharing critical to the safety and integrity of the space environment and the Radio Frequency spectrum.**
- ▲ **The SDA was founded by Inmarsat, Intelsat and SES — three of the leading global satellite communications companies. These three companies, plus Eutelsat, now form the Executive Board of the SDA.**



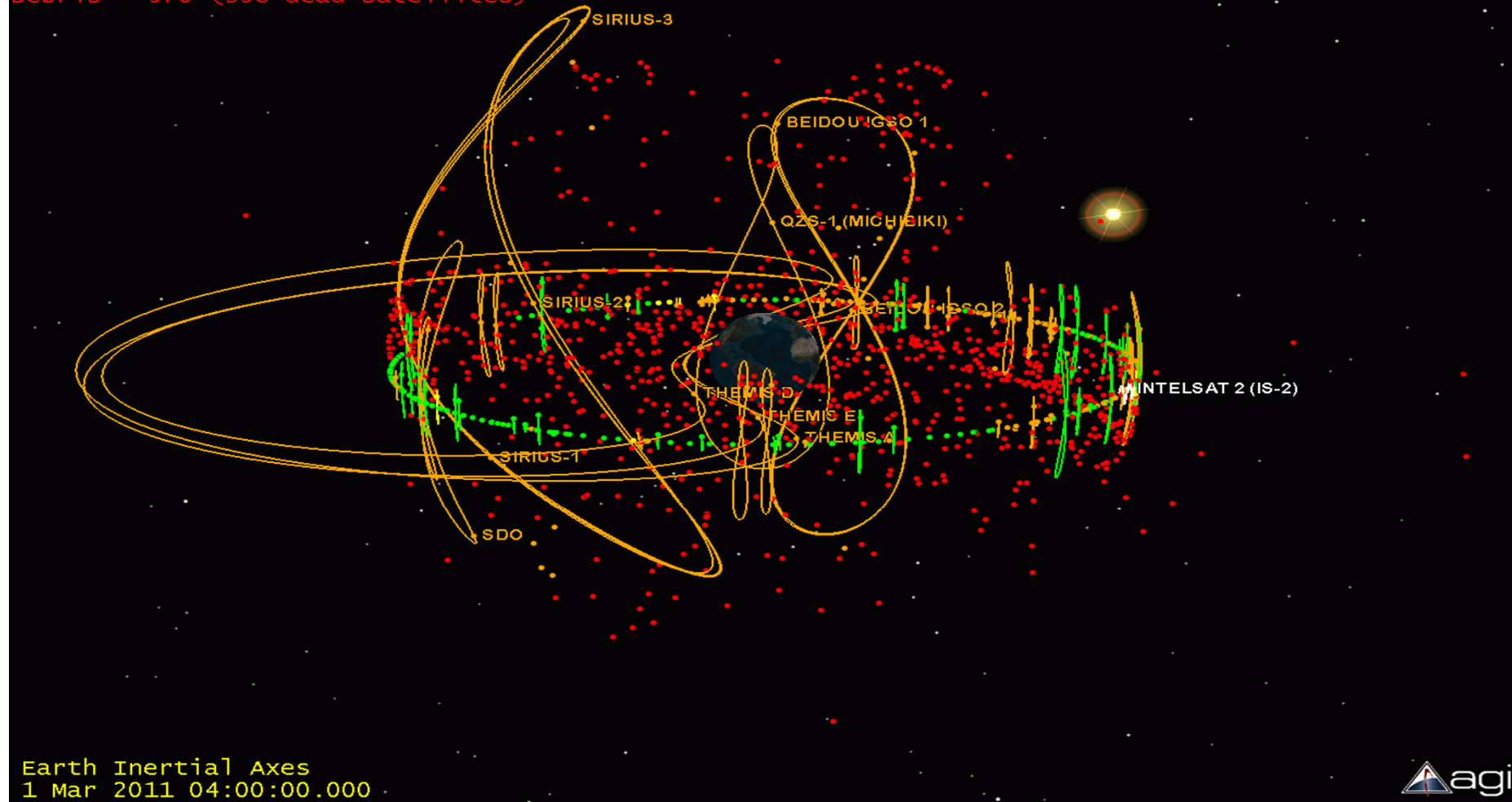
# In-Orbit objects as of March 2011

**Legend:**

SDA Member satellites = 197 (12 with TLEs)

Non-Member satellites = 195

Debris = 970 (398 dead satellites)



# Shared Motivations for SDA's Creation

## ▲ Enhance “Safety of flight”

- *Definition: The condition where satellites are positioned and operated in a manner that preserves their long-term operational viability and the preservation of the orbital regime's involved*

## ▲ Efficient, timely, accurate conjunction assessments

- Reduce false alarms, missed events
- Minimize Member time and resources devoted to Conjunction Assessment

## ▲ Common SSA / Format Conversions / Data Repository

- Minimize confusion, potential for conflicting decisions

## ▲ RFI Geolocation and Resolution Support

- More rapidly find and address interference sources

## ▲ Encourage evolution of best practices for Members

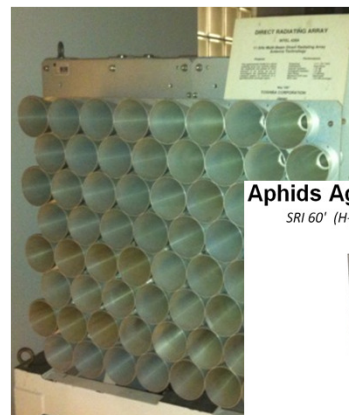
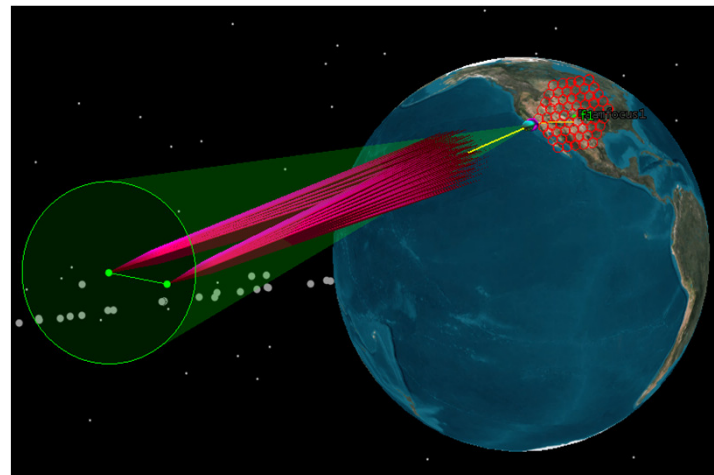
*Conclusion: SDA Enhances its Members' Satellite Operations*



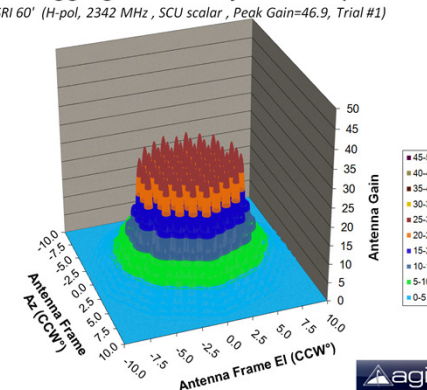
# SDA and Geolocation

- ▲ Without SDA
  - Multiple phone calls required
  - Hours/days required to locate viable solution set and data
  - Data formats = anyone's guess
- ▲ With SDA
  - Solution sets immediately available
  - All necessary data centralized and in consistent format
  - Better data = more accurate results

Geolocation error reduced two orders of magnitude using SDA-on-SDA quality ephemeris



Aphids Aggregate Multi-Spot Beam (AstroHD)  
SRI 60' (H-pol, 2342 MHz, SCU scalar, Peak Gain=46.9, Trial #1)



*SDA enables faster, more accurate geolocation results*

# SDA Charter

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- ▲ **Seek and facilitate improvements in the safety and integrity of satellite operations through wider and improved coordination between satellite operators**
- ▲ **Seek and facilitate improved management of the shared resources of the Space Environment and the Radio Frequency Spectrum**

# SDA Status

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- ▲ SDA established as a legal entity in the Isle of Man
  - Provides necessary legal framework for sharing and protection of data
- ▲ Space Data Center (SDC) system built by Analytical Graphics, Inc. (AGI)
  - System has now achieved Full Operations Capability, providing Conjunction Assessment service to its members
- ▲ Growing membership of
  - Approximately a dozen satellite operators from Geosynchronous and LEO orbital regimes
  - Conjunction Assessment Processing for more than 65% of all GEO satellites

*Multinational, open to all space operators*

# Space Data Center (SDC)

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- ▲ SDC – Three Key Mission Areas:
  - Collision avoidance monitoring (Conjunction Assessment)/ Manoeuvre Planning Validation / Flight Safety
  - Radio Frequency Interference mitigation / Geolocation support
  - Contact information (operations center) for SDA Member objects
- ▲ SDC reliable and secure operation:
  - Tertiary, geographically separated redundancy
  - High level data security and encryption
  - Best practice Information Assurance (IA) based on standards for high level computing systems



## How does SDA Protect Member Data?

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- ▲ Strict legal agreements between Members and SDA
  - Defines permitted uses for SDC data/products
  - Prohibits misuse of SDC data/products
    - Retransmission to third parties prohibited
    - Obligations for member data contribution
  - Legal liability issues are addressed by enforceable contract
- ▲ Multiple technical / security controls within SDC

# Potential Future SDA Capabilities

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- ▲ Collect, process, store & disseminate RF Interference (RFI) details to support investigation
- ▲ Automatically provide solution sets for performance of geolocation measurements
- ▲ Develop & maintain RFI mitigation capabilities, procedures and techniques to ensure continuity of operations
- ▲ Collate and disseminate Space Weather data
- ▲ Host databases of deployed equipment for industry's RFI 'Carrier ID' project

# Contacts – Directors of the SDA

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**Thank you!**

**Visit [www.ses.com](http://www.ses.com)**





# BACK UP SLIDES

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# Permitted & Prohibited Uses

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## ▲ Permitted Uses:

- Operational support, including Safety of Flight
- RFI resolution of actual harmful interference, including at ITU
- Support for insurance underwriting
- As legally required by national regulatory authorities

## ▲ Prohibited Uses:

- Any commercial purposes (sales, planning, marketing, etc.)
- Securing orbital-spectrum rights
- Transmittal to 3rd parties (except for Safety of Flight)
- Any other use that is not a Permitted Use

*These conditions are enforced through the legally binding agreements*



# Why is data sharing through the SDA important?

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- ▲ Data from other sources has proven to be unreliable
  - TLEs for conjunction assessment are insufficient
- ▲ Operators' own data is one of the best sources
  - Facilitate operator-to-operator sharing
- ▲ SDC can ensure common data formats/data is current
  - Automated conversion of ephemerides to common format
- ▲ SDA can help operators validate data
  - Periodic calibration of data
- ▲ Data automatically available
  - Checks on data validity
  - Available on system, no manual intervention

# How is the SDA funded?

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- ▲ Until recently, the founding members (SES, Intelsat and Inmarsat) have supported all costs
- ▲ Now that Full Operations Capability has been reached, each member is being charged an annual fee
  - Fees are maintained low to attract members and in any case, are only intended to cover costs
  - Short fall will likely continue to be covered by Executive Members
- ▲ Funding will be at a level to ensure a cash-positive balance though not-for-profit and will anticipate future development



# What data will be shared?

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- ▲ Data sharing will be defined by the type of service:
  - **Points of Contact:** Operations points of contact
  - **Conjunction Assessment (CA):** Orbital data and manoeuvre plans
  - **RF Data Sharing:** RF data including sat. config., ref. carriers, etc.
  - **RFI Alert:** RFI event reports
  - **Enhanced Services:** All of above plus agreement to share data with approved 3rd parties in return for access to enhanced services (geolocations, other data sources)
- ▲ Third party access to data (Enhanced Services only) will be strictly controlled and determined by the SDA
- ▲ All members must participate in Points of Contact and Conjunction Assessment but can choose whether to participate in other services
- ▲ Participation in a service requires Member to provide associated data