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For over three decades, Inmarsat has been the leading provider of mobile satellite communications services around the globe

Inmarsat's mission started as an Inter-Governmental Organization providing MSS to maritime users, which include companies engaged in merchant shipping, passenger transport, fishing, energy and leisure, as well as government and maritime patrol organisations (such as navies and coast guards). Inmarsat subsequently has expanded its service portfolio and provides MSS as well to the land mobile and aeronautical sectors, with users such as government entities, media users, aid agencies, the oil and gas industries, and commercial airlines.

Today, as a privatised entity, Inmarsat is in the forefront of developing sophisticated new technology for satellite services. We currently operate three generations of satellites, starting with three Inmarsat-2 satellites launched in the early 1990s, five Inmarsat-3 satellites launched between 1996 and 1998, and three Inmarsat-4 satellites launched in March and November 2005 and August 2008. Each of our Inmarsat-4 satellites is up to 60 times more powerful, and has up to 16 times more communications capacity than an Inmarsat-3 satellite, and the Inmarsat-4 satellites are expected to extend the commercial life of our satellite fleet beyond 2020

Inmarsat already is planning ahead for its next generation of satellites (the "Inmarsat-5" constellation). For instance, in 2013 we expect to commence offering our "Global Xpress" service, in downlink frequencies between 18 and 22 GHz and uplink frequencies between 27 and 31 GHz. These frequencies are often referred to as the "Ka-band". Inmarsat plans to offer connectivity at speeds of up to 50 Mbps to small antennas via our Inmarsat-5 satellites using the Ka-band.

It will allow Inmarsat to offer high-speed, quality broadband services, comparable to many terrestrial technologies across key relevant metrics of service. Satellite broadband will support important broadband applications, including VoIP, streaming video, and high-definition video conferencing.

Inmarsat's new project will bring innovative solutions and will facilitate applications related to health, critical infrastructure, disaster communications and other remote communications that will affect users' quality of life in a positive way. The increase in demand for high speed data is a reflection of the increasingly mobile, connected lives people live.

The technology and services offered by Global Xpress project will stimulate growth and strengthen economies by enabling companies to compete more efficiently in the global market. Global Xpress will also provide individual users with increased flexibility and reliability in their communications options.