

Excellent SkyWAN® Performance Confirmed

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Institut für Rundfunktechnik Conducts Independent Tests

Friedrichshafen/Munich, December 6, 2006 – The Institut für Rundfunktechnik GmbH (IRT), which is the central research and development institute advisor for public broadcasters in Germany, Austria and Switzerland, recently conducted several performance tests with SkyWAN®, one of ND SatCom's core technologies. The test results from the institute show SkyWAN®'s excellent performance and reliability for broadcast & media applications. The SkyWAN® system, part of ND SatCom's media network solution, was housed in a customary SNG vehicle to simulate genuine conditions. The IRT confirmed that SkyWAN® is an ideal solution for media and content applications to connect remote sites or mobile Satellite News Gathering (SNG) vehicles, as well as forwarding and exchanging content among studio sites.

Live video transmission requires excellent Quality of Service (QoS) at data rates of up to six Megabits per second. Throughput of other traffic such as content exchange and file transfer speed is increased to use all available network capacity. The institute confirmed a "constant data rate" in long term tests over 15 hours. "Effective TCP acceleration" and "optimal QoS behaviour" were certified. Markus Berg, IRT's Head of Broadcast Networks and Servers, stated: "ND SatCom's SkyWAN® system performed convincingly in all our tests. The QoS committed transmissions ran without failures. The other satellite capacity in the network was effectively allocated to a mix of other traffic, maximizing the overall throughput."

Dr. Gerhard Bommas, CTO of ND SatCom, is pleased with the IRT results: "The test results confirm that ND SatCom is a world leader in MESH VSAT technology. ND SatCom's R&D team constantly enhances our technologies. SkyWAN® is the most flexible, scalable and comprehensive VSAT system available in the market. We provide next generation satellite networks based on SkyWAN® to customers in more than 130 countries in vertical markets such as broadcast & media, defence & government as well as telecoms & enterprises. Being an affiliate of SES ASTRA, ND SatCom can combine SkyWAN® technology with SES satellite capacity, providing a very attractive end-to-end solutions offering."

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About ND SatCom

ND SatCom, an SES ASTRA company, is a leading global supplier of satellite-based broadband VSAT, broadcast, government and defence communication network and ground station solutions. ND SatCom's innovative technologies are deployed in government and defence, broadcast & media, enterprise and telecom environments worldwide. As a global company with more than 25 years of experience in the satellite networks and systems businesses, ND SatCom is a reliable source of comprehensive and secure turnkey and tailored system engineered solutions. ND SatCom is represented by regional sales and service offices worldwide.

About Institut für Rundfunktechnik GmbH

The Institut für Rundfunktechnik GmbH (IRT), founded in 1956, is the research and development institute of the public broadcasters in Germany (ARD, ZDF, DLR), Austria (ORF), and Switzerland (SRG/SSR). The competence and service centre IRT stands for development and application of state-of-the-art techniques in the area of broadcasting. We optimize existing and develop new solutions for production and distribution of broadcasting services. For more information: www.irt.de

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