

# CEC 352 – SATELLITE COMMUNICATION

Prepared

by

V. PARTHIBAN,  
AP/ECE



**Sri Muthukumar Institute of Technology**  
Chikkarayapuram, Near Mangadu, Chennai – 600 069.

## UNIT V – SATELLITE APPLICATIONS

### SYLLABUS

INTELSAT Series, INSAT, VSAT, Mobile satellite services: GSM, GPS, INMARSAT, LEO, MEO, Satellite Navigational System. Direct Broadcast satellites (DBS) Direct to home Broadcast (DTH), Digital audio broadcast (DAB)- World space services, Business TV (BTV), GRAMSAT, Specialized services– E–mail, Video conferencing, Internet.

## CHAPTER 5

### SATELLITE APPLICATION

#### INTELSAT Series

INTELSAT stands for *International Telecommunications Satellite*. The organization was created in 1964 and currently has over 140 member countries and more than 40 investing entities. In July 2001 INTELSAT became a private company and in May 2002 the company began providing end-to-end solutions through a network of teleports, leased fiber and *points of presence* (PoPs) around the globe.

Starting with the Early Bird satellite in 1965, a succession of satellites has been launched at intervals of a few years. Figure 5.1 shows the evolution of some of INTELSAT satellites. In the figure the capacity, in terms of number of voice channels, increased dramatically with each succeeding launch, as well as the design lifetime. These satellites are in *geostationary orbit* - appear to be stationary in relation to the earth. The geostationary satellites orbit in the earth's equatorial plane and their position is specified by their longitude.

For international traffic, INTELSAT covers three main regions—the *Atlantic Ocean Region* (AOR), the *Indian Ocean Region* (IOR), and the *Pacific Ocean Region* (POR) and what is termed *Intelsat America's Region*. For the ocean regions the satellites are positioned in geostationary orbit above the particular ocean, where they provide a transoceanic telecommunications route. For example, INTELSAT's satellite 905 is positioned at 335.5° east longitude.

The INTELSAT VII-VII/A series was launched over a period from October 1993 to June 1996. The construction is similar to that of V and VA/VB series in that the VII series has solar sails rather than a cylindrical body.

The VII series was planned for service in the POR and also for some of the less demanding services in the AOR. The antenna beam coverage is appropriate for that of the POR. Figure 5.2 shows the antenna beam footprints for the C-band hemispheric coverage and zone coverage, as well as the spot beam coverage possible with the Ku-band antennas. When used in the AOR, the VII series satellite is inverted north for south, minor adjustments then being needed only to optimize the antenna patterns for this region. The lifetime of these satellites ranges from 10 to 15 years depending on the launch vehicle.

Recent figures from the INTELSAT Web site give the capacity for the INTELSAT VII as 18,000 two-way telephone circuits and three TV channels; up to 90,000 two-way telephone circuits can

be achieved with the use of “digital circuit multiplication.” The INTELSAT VII/A has a capacity of 22,500 two-way telephone circuits and three TV channels; up to 112,500 two-way telephone circuits can be achieved with the use of digital circuit multiplication. As of May 1999, four satellites were in service over the AOR, one in the IOR, and two in the POR.

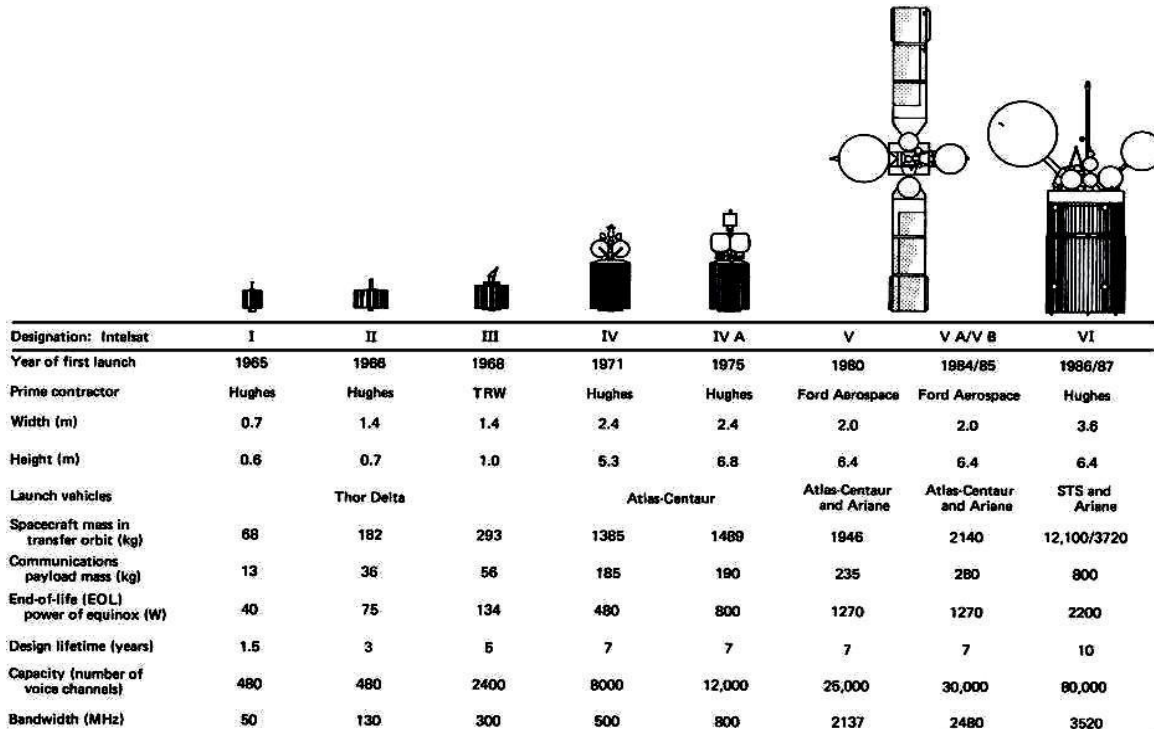


Figure 5.1 INTELSAT Series

The INTELSAT VIII-VII/A series of satellites was launched over the period February 1997 to June 1998. Satellites in this series have similar capacity as the VII/A series, and the lifetime is 14 to 17 years. It is standard practice to have a spare satellite in orbit on high-reliability routes and to have ground spare in case of launch failure.

Thus the cost for large international schemes can be high; for example, series IX represents a total investment of approximately \$1 billion.

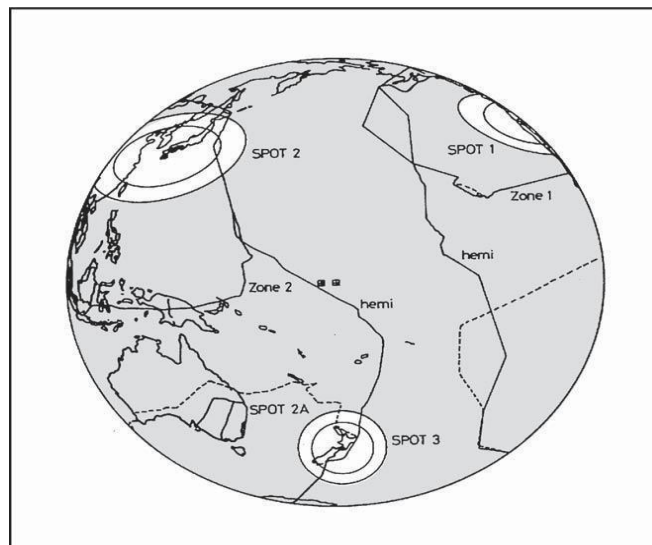


Figure 5.2 Region of Globe

## INSAT

**INSAT** or the *Indian National Satellite System* is a series of multipurpose geostationary satellites launched by ISRO to satisfy the telecommunications, broadcasting, meteorology, and search and rescue operations commissioned in 1983. INSAT is the largest domestic communication system in the Asia Pacific Region. It is a joint venture of the Department of Space, Department of Telecommunications, India Meteorological Department, All India Radio and Doordarshan. The overall coordination and management of INSAT system rests with the Secretary-level INSAT Coordination Committee.

INSAT satellites provide transponders in various bands to serve the television and communication needs of India. Some of the satellites also have the Very High Resolution Radiometer (VHRR), CCD cameras for meteorological imaging. The satellites also incorporate transponder(s) for receiving distress alert signals for search and rescue missions in the South Asian and Indian Ocean Region, as ISRO is a member of the Cospas-Sarsat programme.

### INSAT System

The Indian National Satellite (INSAT) System was commissioned with the launch of INSAT-1B in August 1983. INSAT System ushered in a revolution in India's Television and Radio Broadcasting, Telecommunications and Meteorological Sectors. It enabled the rapid expansion of TV and Modern Telecommunication facilities to even the remote areas and Off-Shore Islands.

### Satellites in Service

Of the 24 Satellites launched in the course of the INSAT Program, 10 are still in operation. Insat-2E is the last of the five satellites in Insat-2 Series and it carries 17 C-band and lower extended C-band transponders providing zonal and global coverage with an effective isotropic radiated power of 36 dbw. It also carries a very High Resolution Radiometer (VHRR) with Imaging Capacity in the visible (0.55-0.75  $\mu\text{m}$ ), Thermal Infrared (10.5-12.5  $\mu\text{m}$ ) and Water Vapour (5.7-7.1  $\mu\text{m}$ ) channels and provides 2x2 km, 8x8 km and 8x8 km ground resolution respectively.

### INSAT-3A

The multipurpose satellite, INSAT-3A, was launched by Ariane in April 2003. It is located at 93.5 degree east longitude. The payloads on INSAT-3A are as follows:

- 12 Normal C-Band Transponders (9 Channels provide expanded coverage from Middle East to South East Asia with an EIRP Of 38 dbw, 3 Channels provide India coverage with an EIRP Of 36 dbw and 6 extended C-Band transponders provide India coverage with an EIRP of 36 dbw).
- ACCD Camera provides 1x1 Km ground resolution, in the visible (0.63  $\mu\text{m}$ ), near Infrared (0.77-0.86  $\mu\text{m}$ ) and short wave Infrared (1.55-1.70  $\mu\text{m}$ ) bands.

### **INSAT-3D**

Launched in July 2013, INSAT-3D is positioned at 82 degree East Longitude. INSAT-3D payloads include Imager, Sounder, Data Relay Transponder and Search & Rescue Transponder. All the transponders provide coverage over large part of the Indian Ocean region covering India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal, Seychelles, Sri Lanka And Tanzania for rendering distress alert services

### **INSAT-3E**

Launched In September 2003, INSAT-3E is positioned at 55 degree East Longitude and carries 24 normal C-Band Transponders provide an edge of coverage EIRP of 37 dbw over India and 12 extended C-Band Transponders provide an edge of coverage EIRP of 38 dbw over India.

### **KALPANA-1**

KALPANA-1 is an exclusive Meteorological Satellite launched by PSLV in September 2002. It carries very High Resolution Radiometer and DRT payloads to provide meteorological services. It is located at 74 degree East Longitude. Its first name was METSAT. It was later renamed as KALPANA-1 to commemorate Kalpana Chawla.

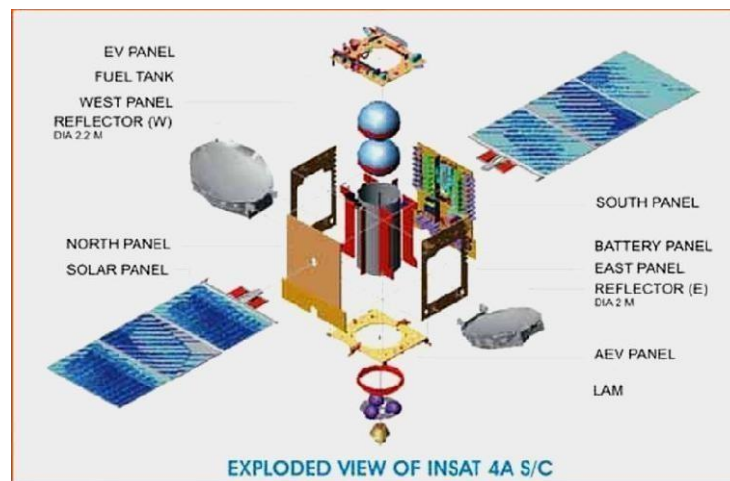
### **Edusat**

It is configured for audio-visual medium employing Digital Interactive classroom lessons and multimedia content. EDUSAT was launched by GSLV in September 2004. Its transponders and their ground coverage are specially configured to cater to the educational requirements.

### **GSAT-2**

Launched by the second flight of GSLV in May 2003, GSAT-2 is located at 48 degree East Longitude and carries four normal C-Band Transponders to provide 36 dbw EIRP with India coverage, Two Ku band transponders with 42 dbw EIRP over India and an MSS payload similar to those on INSAT-3B And INSAT-3C.

### **INSAT-4 Series**



**Figure 5.3 INSAT 4A**



## **VSAT Network**

The basic structure of a VSAT network consists of a hub station which provides a broadcast facility to all the VSATs in the network and the VSATs themselves which access the satellite in some form of multiple-access mode. The hub station is operated by the service provider, and may be shared among a number of users, with each user organization having exclusive access to its own VSAT network.

Time division multiplexing is the normal downlink mode of transmission from hub to the VSATs, and the transmission can be broadcast for reception by all the VSATs in a network. A form of *demand assigned multiple access* (DAMA) is employed in some systems in which channel capacity is assigned in response to the fluctuating demands of the VSATs in the network. Most VSAT systems operate in the Ku band, although there are some C-band systems in existence.

### **Applications:**

- Supermarket shops (ATM machines, stock sale updates and stock ordering).
- Chemist shops
- Shoppers Drug Mart-Pharmaprix.
- Broadband direct to the home. e.g. Downloading MP3 audio to audio players.
- Broadband direct small business, office etc, sharing local use with many PCs.
- Internet access from on board ship. Cruise ships with internet cafes, commercial shipping communications.

## **Mobile Satellite Services- GSM**

### **GSM Services and Architecture**

If a work involves some form of wireless public communications, we are likely to encounter the GSM standards. Initially developed to support a standardized approach to digital cellular communications in Europe, the "Global System for Mobile Communications" (GSM) protocols are rapidly being adopted to the next generation of wireless telecommunication systems. In the US, its main competition appears to be the cellular TDMA systems based on the IS-54 standards. Since the GSM systems consist of a wide range of components, standards, and protocols.

The GSM and its companion standard DCS1800 have been developed over the last decade to allow cellular communications systems to move beyond the limitations posed by the older analog systems.

Analog system capacities are being stressed with more users that can be supported by the available frequency allocations. Compatibility between types of systems had been limited, if non-existent. By using digital encoding techniques, more users can share the same frequencies than had been available in the analog systems.

As compared to the digital cellular systems in the US, the GSM market has had impressive success. Estimates of the numbers of telephones run from 7.5 million GSM phones to .5 million IS54 phones to 3 million for IS95.

GSM has gained in acceptance from its initial beginnings in Europe to other parts of the world including Australia, New Zealand, countries in the Middle East and the far east. Beyond its use in cellular frequencies (900 MHz for GSM, 1800 MHz for DCS1800), portions of the GSM signaling protocols are finding their way into the newly developing PCS and LEOSatellite communication systems.

While the frequencies and link characteristics of these systems differ from the standard GSM air interface, all of these systems must deal with users roaming from one cell to another, and bridge services to public communication networks including the Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN), and public data networks (PDN).

### **The GSM Architecture includes several subsystems**

**The Mobile Station (MS)** - These digital telephones include vehicle, portable and hand-held terminals. A device called the Subscriber Identity Module (SIM) is basically a smart-card provides custom information about users such as the services subscribed to and their identification in the network.

**The Base Station Sub-System (BSS)** -- The BSS is the collection of devices that support the switching network radio interface. Major components of the BSS include the Base Transceiver Station (BTS) that consists of the radio modems and antennae equipment. In OSI terms, the BTS provides the physical interface to the MS where the BSC is responsible for the link layer services to the MS.

**The Network and Switching Sub-System (NSS)**-- The NSS provides the switching between the GSM subsystem and external networks along with the databases used for additional subscriber and mobility management. Major components in the NSS include the Mobile Services Switching Center (MSC), Home and Visiting Location Registers (HLR, VLR). The HLR and VLR databases are interconnected through the telecomm standard Signaling System 7 (SS7) control network.

**The Operation Sub-System (OSS)** -- The OSS provides the support functions responsible for the management of network maintenance and services. Components of the OSS are responsible for network operation and maintenance, mobile equipment management, and subscription management and charging.

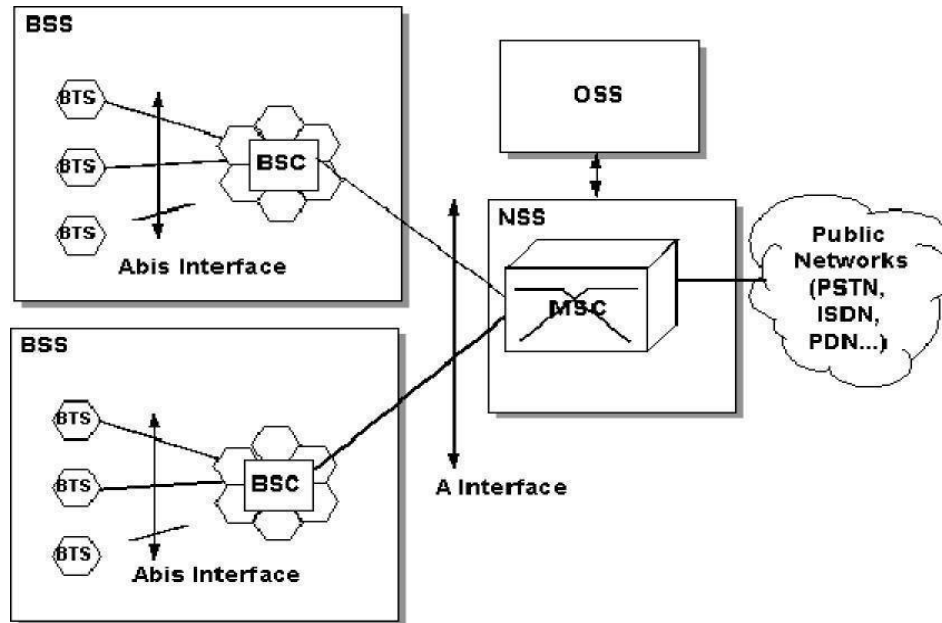


Figure 5.5 GSM Block Diagrams

**Several channels are used in the air interface:**

- **FCCH**-the frequency correction channel- provides frequency synchronization information in a burst
- **SCH**-Synchronization Channel- following the FCCH burst (8 bits later), provides a reference to all slots on a given frequency
- **PAGCH**- Paging and Access Grant Channel used for transmission of paging information requesting the setup of a call to a MS.
- **RACH**-Random Access Channel- an inbound channel used by the MS to request connections from the ground network.
- **CBCH**-Cell Broadcast Channel- used for infrequent transmission of broadcasts by the ground network.
- **BCCH** -Broadcast Control Channel- provides access status information to the MS.
- **FACCH**-Fast Associated Control Channel for the control of handovers
- **TCH/F**-Traffic Channel, Full Rate for speech at 13 kbps or data at 12, 6, or 3.6 kbps
- **TCH/H**-Traffic Channel, Half Rate for speech at 7 kbps, or data at 6 or 3.6 kbps

**Mobility Management**

One of the major features used in all classes of GSM networks is the ability to support roaming users. Through the control signaling network, the MSCs interact to locate and connect to users throughout the network.

"Location Registers" are included in the MSC databases to assist in the role of determining how, and whether connections are to be made to roaming users. Each user of a GSM MS

is assigned a Home Location Register (HLR) that is used to contain the user's location and subscribed services.

### Difficulties facing the operators can include-

- Remote/Rural Areas - To service remote areas, it is economically unfeasible to provide backhaul facilities via terrestrial lines.
- Time to deploy - Terrestrial build-outs can take years to plan and implement.
- Areas of 'minor' interest - include small isolated centers such as tourist resorts, islands, mines, oil exploration sites, hydro-electric facilities.
- Temporary Coverage - Special events, even in urban areas, can overload the existing infrastructure.

### 5.4.4. GSM Service Security

GSM was designed with a moderate level of service security. GSM uses several cryptographic algorithms for security. The A5/1, A5/2, and A5/3 stream ciphers are used for ensuring over-the-air voice privacy. GSM uses General Packet Radio Service (GPRS) for data transmissions like browsing the web. The most commonly deployed GPRS ciphers were publicly broken in 2011. These researchers revealed flaws in the commonly used GEA/1.

### Global Positioning System (GPS)

The Global Positioning System (GPS) is a satellite based navigation system used to locate positions anywhere on earth. Designed by the U.S. Department of Defense, it consists of satellites, control and monitor stations, and receivers. GPS receivers take information transmitted from the satellites and uses triangulation to calculate a user's exact location. GPS is used on incidents in a variety of ways, such as:

- To determine position locations; for example.
- To navigate from one location to another
- To create digitized maps.
- To determine distance between two points.

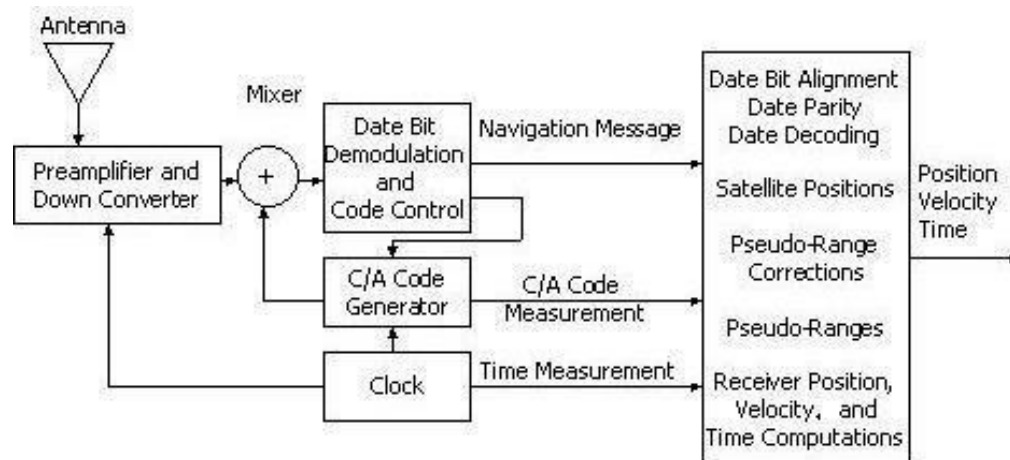


Figure 5.6 Block Diagram of GPS

## **Three Segments of GPS**

### **Space Segment- Satellites orbiting the earth**

The space segment consists of 29 satellites circling the earth every 12 hours at 12,000 miles in altitude. This high altitude allows the signals to cover a greater area. The satellites are arranged in their orbits so a GPS receiver on earth can receive a signal from at least four satellites at any given time. Each satellite contains several atomic clocks.

### **Control Segment- The control and monitoring stations**

The control segment tracks the satellites and then provides them with corrected orbital and time information. The control segment consists of five unmanned monitor stations and one Master Control Station. The five unmanned stations monitor GPS satellite signals and then send that information to the Master Control Station where anomalies are corrected and sent back to the GPS satellites through ground antennas.

### **User Segment- The GPS receivers owned by civilians and military**

The user segment consists of the users and their GPS receivers. The number of simultaneous users is limitless.

### **How GPS Determines a Position**

The GPS receiver uses the following information to determine a position.

#### **Precise location of satellites**

When a GPS receiver is first turned on, it downloads orbit information from all the satellites called an almanac. This process, the first time, can take as long as 12 minutes; but once this information is downloaded, it is stored in the receiver's memory for future use.

#### **Distance from each satellite**

The GPS receiver calculates the distance from each satellite to the receiver by using the distance formula:  $\text{distance} = \text{velocity} \times \text{time}$ . The receiver already knows the velocity, which is the speed of a radio wave or 186,000 miles per second.

#### **Triangulation to determine position**

The receiver determines position by using triangulation. When it receives signals from at least three satellites the receiver should be able to calculate its approximate position (a 2D position). The receiver needs at least four or more satellites to calculate a more accurate 3D position.

## Using a GPS Receiver

There are several different models and types of GPS receivers. When working on an incident with a GPS receiver it is important to:

- Always have a compass and a map.
- Have a GPS download cable.
- Have extra batteries.
- Know memory capacity of the GPS receiver to prevent loss of data, decrease in accuracy of data, or other problems.
- Use an external antenna whenever possible, especially under a tree canopy, in canyons, or while flying or driving.
- Set up GPS receiver according to incident or agency standard regulation; coordinate system.

## INMARSAT

Inmarsat-Indian Maritime Satellite is still the sole IMO-mandated provider of satellite communications for the GMDSS. Inmarsat has constantly and consistently been audited by IMO and reported on to IMO. Now Inmarsat commercial services use the same satellites and network. Inmarsat A closes at midnight on 31 December 2007 agreed by IMO – MSC/Circ.1076. Successful closure programme almost concluded overseen throughout by IMO.



Figure 5.7 INMARSAT Satellite Service

GMDSS services continue to be provided by:

- Inmarsat B, Inmarsat C/mini-C and Inmarsat Fleet F77
- Potential for GMDSS on Fleet Broadband being assessed

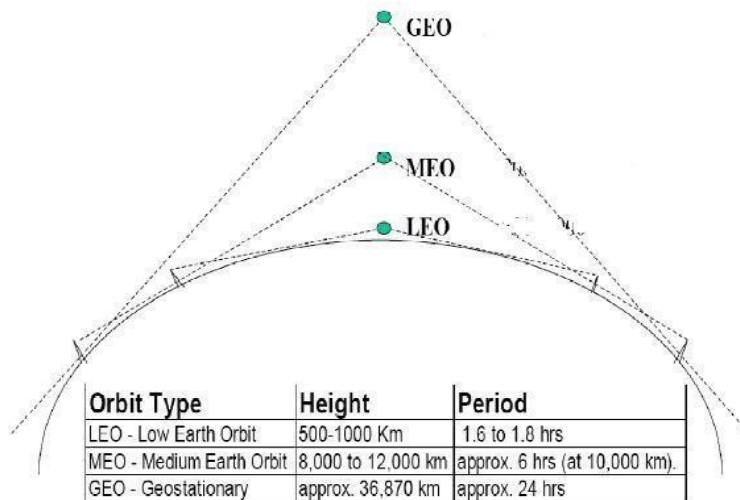
The IMO Criteria for the provision of Mobile Satellite Communications Systems in the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS)-

- Amendments were proposed to make it simpler for other satellite systems to be approved
- The original requirements remain and were approved by MSC83
- No dilution of standards
- Minor amendments only
- Replacement Resolution expected to be approved by the IMO
- Inmarsat remains the sole, approved satcom provider for the GMDSS

### LEO, MEO and GEO

**LEO:** Low Earth Orbit satellites have a small area of coverage. They are positioned in an orbit approximately 3000 km from the surface of the earth.

- They complete one orbit every 90 minutes
- The large majority of satellites are in low earth orbit
- The Iridium system utilizes LEO satellites (780 km high)
- The satellite in LEO orbit is visible to a point on the earth for a very short time



**Figure 5.8** LEO, MEO & GEO Range

**MEO:** Medium Earth Orbit satellites have orbital altitudes between 3,000 and 30,000 km.

They are commonly used in navigation systems such as GPS.

**GEO:** Geosynchronous (Geostationary) Earth Orbit satellites are positioned over the equator.

The orbital altitude is around 30,000-40,000 km

- There is only one geostationary orbit possible around the earth lying on the earth's equatorial plane.
- The satellite orbiting at the same speed as the rotational speed of the earth on its axis.
- They complete one orbit every 24 hours. This causes the satellite to appear stationary with respect to a point on the earth, allowing one satellite to provide continual coverage to a given area on the earth's surface.

- One GEO satellite can cover approximately 1/3 of the world's surface. They are commonly used in communications systems.

Advantages:

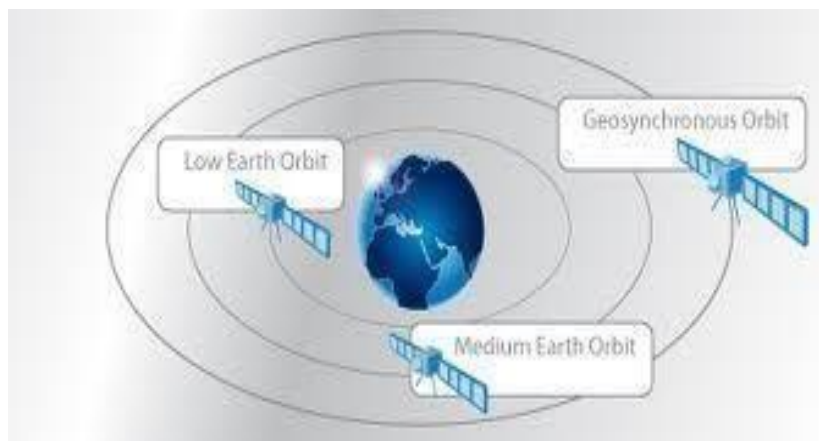
- Simple ground station tracking.
- Nearly constant range
- Very small frequency shift

Disadvantages:

- Transmission delay of the order of 250 msec.
- Large free space loss.
- No polar coverage

**Satellite orbits in terms of the orbital height:** According to distance from earth:

- Geosynchronous Earth Orbit (GEO),
- Medium Earth Orbit (MEO),
- Low Earth Orbit (LEO)



**Figure 5.9** LEO, MEO & GEO Orbits

GEO: 35,786 km above the earth, MEO: 8,000-20,000 km above the earth & LEO: 500- 2,000 km above the earth.

### **Satellite Navigational System**

A **satellite navigation** system is a system that uses satellites to provide autonomous geospatial positioning. It allows small electronic receivers to determine their location (longitude, latitude, and altitude/elevation) to high precision (within a few centimeters to meters) using time signals transmitted along a line of sight by radio from satellites. The system can be used for providing position, navigation or for tracking the position of something fitted with a receiver. The signals also allow the electronic receiver to calculate the current local time to high precision, which allows time synchronization. These uses are collectively known as Positioning, Navigation and Timing (**PNT**). Satnav systems operate independently of any telephonic or internet reception, though these technologies can enhance the usefulness of the positioning information generated.

A satellite navigation system with global coverage may be termed a **global navigation satellite system (GNSS)**. As of October 2018, the United States' Global Positioning System (GPS) and Russia's Global Navigation Satellite System (GLONASS) are fully operational GNSSs, with China's BeiDou Navigation Satellite System (BDS) and the European Union's Galileo scheduled to be fully operational by 2020.

India has the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS), also known as Navigation with Indian Constellation (NAVIC), an autonomous regional satellite navigation system that provides accurate real-time positioning and timing services, with plans to expand to a global version in long term. Global coverage for each system is generally achieved by a satellite constellation of 18–30 medium Earth orbit (MEO) satellites spread between several orbital planes. The actual systems vary, but use orbital inclinations of  $>50^\circ$  and orbital periods of roughly twelve hours.

By their roles in the navigation system, systems can be classified as:

- Core Satellite navigation systems (United States), GLONASS (Russian Federation), Galileo (European Union) and BeiDou (China).
- Global Satellite Based Augmentation Systems (SBAS) such as Omnistar and StarFire.
- Regional SBAS including WAAS (US), EGNOS (EU), MSAS (Japan) and GAGAN (India).
- Regional Satellite Navigation Systems such as India's NAVIC and Japan's QZSS.
- Continental scale Ground Based Augmentation Systems (GBAS).
- Regional scale GBAS such as CORS networks.
- Local GBAS typified by a single GPS reference station operating Real Time Kinematic (RTK) corrections.

As many of the global GNSS systems use similar frequencies and signals around L1, many "Multi-GNSS" receivers capable of using multiple systems have been produced. While some systems strive to interoperate with GPS as well as possible by providing the same clock, others do not.

### **Benefits of SNS**

- Enhanced Safety
- Increased Capacity
- Reduced Delay
- Increased Flight Efficiencies
- Increased Schedule Predictability
- Environmentally Beneficial Procedures

### **Direct Broadcast Satellites (DBS)**

Satellites provide *broadcast* transmissions in the fullest sense of the word, because antenna footprints can be made to cover large areas of the earth. The idea of using satellites to provide direct transmissions into the home has been around for many years, and the services provided are known generally as *direct broadcast satellite* (DBS) services. Broadcast services include audio, television, and Internet services.

## Power Rating and Number of Transponders

The satellites primarily intended for DBS have a higher [EIRP] than for the other categories, being in the range 51 to 60 dBW. At a *Regional Administrative Radio Council* (RARC) meeting in 1983, the value established for DBS was 57 dBW. Transponders are rated by the power output of their high-power amplifiers.

Typically, a satellite may carry 32 transponders. If all 32 are in use, each will operate at the lower power rating of 120 W. The available bandwidth for uplink and downlink is seen to be 500 MHz. A total number of 32 transponder channels, each of bandwidth 24 MHz, can be accommodated. The bandwidth is sometimes specified as 27 MHz, but this includes a 3-MHz guard band allowance. Therefore, when calculating bit-rate capacity, the 24 MHz value is used. The total of 32 transponders requires the use of both *right-hand circular polarization* (RHCP) and *left-hand circular polarization* (LHCP) in order to permit frequency reuse and guard bands are inserted between channels of a given polarization.

	1	3	5	RHCP	31
Uplink MHz	17324.00	17353.16	17382.32	...	17761.40
Downlink MHz	12224.00	12253.16	12282.32	...	12661.40
	2	4	6	LHCP	32
Uplink MHz	17338.58	17367.74	17411.46	...	17775.98
Downlink MHz	12238.58	12267.74	12296.50	...	12675.98

Figure 5.10 DBS Service

## Bit Rates for Digital Television

The bit rate for digital television depends very much on the picture format. One way of estimating the uncompressed bit rate is to multiply the number of pixels in a frame by the number of frames per second, and multiply this by the number of bits used to encode each pixel.

## MPEG Compression Standards

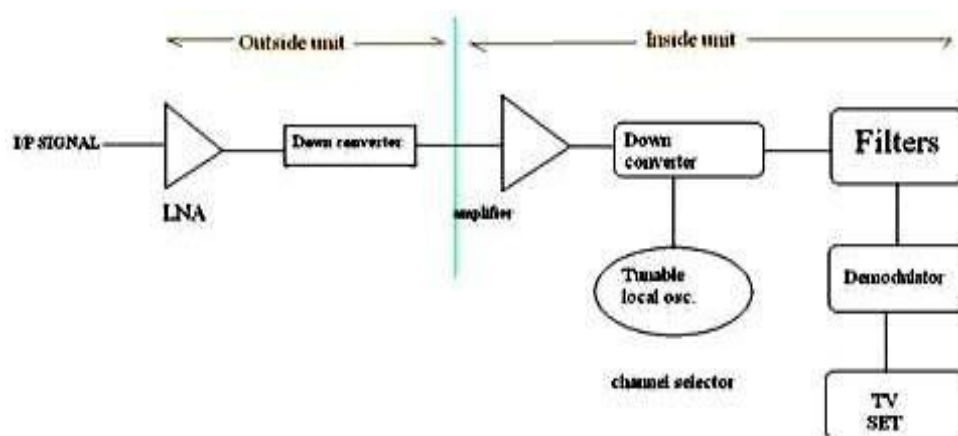
MPEG is a group within the *International Standards Organization* and the *International Electrotechnical Commission* (ISO/IEC) that undertook the job of defining standards for the transmission and storage of moving pictures and sound. The MPEG standards currently available are MPEG-1, MPEG-2, MPEG-4, and MPEG-7.

## Direct To Home Broadcast (DTH)

DTH stands for Direct-To-Home television. DTH is defined as the reception of satellite programmes with a personal dish in an individual home.

- DTH Broadcasting to home TV receiver take place in the Ku band (12GHz). This service is known as Direct to Home service.
- DTH services were first proposed in India in 1996.
- Finally in 2000, DTH was allowed.
- The new policy requires all operators to set up earth stations in India

Within 12 months of getting a license, DTH licenses in India may cost about \$2.14 million and will be valid for 10 years. Working principal of DTH is the satellite communication. Broadcaster modulates the received signal and transmits it to the satellite in KU Band and from satellite one can receive signal by dish and set top box. A DTH network consists of a broadcasting centre, satellites, encoders, multiplexers, modulators and DTH receivers. The encoder converts the audio, video and data signals into the digital format and the multiplexer mixes these signals. It is used to provide the DTH service in high populated area. A Multi Switch is basically a box that contains signal splitters and A/B switches. A outputs of group of DTH LNBS are connected to the A and B inputs of the Multi Switch.



**Figure 5.11 DTH Service**

- DTH also offers digital quality signals which do not degrade the picture or sound quality.
- It also offers interactive channels and program guides with customers having the choice to block out programming which they consider undesirable.
- One of the great advantages of the cable industry has been the ability to provide local channels, but this handicap has been overcome by many DTH providers using other local channels or local feeds.
- The other advantage of DTH is the availability of satellite broadcast in rural and semi-urban areas where cable is difficult to install.

## **DigitalAudioBroadcast(DAB)**

DAB Project is an industry-led consortium of over 300 companies. The DAB Project was launched on 10<sup>th</sup> September, 1993. In 1995 it was basically finished and became operational. There are several sub-standards of the DAB standard-

- DAB-S(Satellite)–using QPSK–40Mb/s
- DAB-T(Terrestrial)–using QAM–50Mb/s
- DAB-C(Cable)– using OFDM–24Mb/s

These three sub-standards basically differ only in the specifications to the physical representation, modulation, transmission and reception of the signal. The DAB stream consists of a series of fixed length packets which make up a Transport Stream (TS). The packets support ‘streams’ or ‘data sections’. Streams carry higher layer packets derived from an MPEG stream & Data sections are blocks of data carrying signaling and control data. DAB is actually a support mechanism for MPEG. One MPEG stream needing higher instantaneous data can ‘steal’ capacity from another with spare capacity.

## **WorldSpaceServices**

World Space is the world's only global media and entertainment company positioned to offer a satellite radio experience to consumers in more than 130 countries with five billion people, driving 300 million cars. World Space delivers the latest tunes, trends and information from around the world and around the corner.

World Space subscribers benefit from a unique combination of local programming, original World Space content and content from leading brands around the globe, including the BBC, CNN, Virgin Radio, NDTV and RFI. World Space's satellites cover two-thirds of the globe with six beams. Each beam is capable of delivering up to 80 channels of high quality digital audio and multimedia programming directly to World Space Satellite Radios anytime and virtually anywhere in its coverage area. World Space is a pioneer of satellite-based digital radio services (DARS) and was instrumental in the development of the technology infrastructure used today by XM Satellite Radio.

## **BusinessTelevision (BTV)-AdaptationsforEducation**

Business television (BTV) is the production and distribution, via satellite, of video programs for closed user group audiences. It often has two-way audio interaction component made through a simple telephone line. It is being used by many industries including brokerage firms, pizza houses, car dealers and delivery services.

BTV is an increasingly popular method of information delivery for corporations and institutions. Private networks, account for about 70 percent of all BTV networks. It is estimated that by the mid-1990s BTV has the potential to grow to a \$1.6 billion market in North America with more and more Fortune 1,000 companies getting involved. The increase in use of BTV has been dramatic.

Institution updates, news, training, meetings and other events can be broadcast live to multiple locations. The expertise of the best instructors can be delivered to thousands of people

without requiring trainers to go to the site. Information can be disseminated to all employees at once, not just a few at a time. Delivery to the workplace at low cost provides the access to training that has been denied lower level employees. It may be the key to re-training America's workforce. Television has been used to deliver training and information within businesses for more than 40 years. Its recent growth began with the introduction of the video cassette in the early 1970s. Even though most programming is produced for video cassette distribution, business is using BTV to provide efficient delivery of specialized programs via satellite.

The advent of smaller receiving stations- called very small aperture terminals (VSATs) has made private communication networks much more economical to operate. BTV has a number of tangible benefits, such as reducing travel, immediate delivery of time-critical messages, and eliminating cassette duplication and distribution hassles.

The programming on BTV networks is extremely cost-effective compared to seminar fees and downtime for travel. It is an excellent way to get solid and current information very fast. Some people prefer to attend seminars and conferences where they can read, see, hear and ask questions in person. BTV provides yet another piece of the education menu and is another way to provide professional development. A key advantage is that its format allows viewers to interact with presenters by telephone, enabling viewers to become a part of the program. The satellite effectively places people in the same room, so that sales personnel in the field can learn about new products at the same time.

Speed of transmission may well be the competitive edge which some firms need as they introduce new products and services. BTV enables employees in many locations to focus on common problems or issues that might develop into crises without quick communication and resolution.

BTV networks transmit information every business day on a broad range of topics, and provide instructional courses on various products, market trends, selling and motivation. Networks give subscribers the tools to apply the information they have to real world situations.

## **GRAMSAT**

ISRO has come up with the concept of dedicated GRAMSAT satellites, keeping in mind the urgent need to eradicate illiteracy in the rural belt which is necessary for the all round development of the nation. This Gramsat satellite is carrying six to eight high powered C-band transponders, which together with video compression techniques can disseminate regional and cultural specific audio-visual programmes of relevance in each of the regional languages through broadcast mode on an ordinary TV set.

The high power in C-band has enabled even remote area viewers outside the reach of the TV transmitters to receive programmes of their choice in a direct reception mode with a simple dish antenna.

### **The salient features of GRAMSAT projects are:**

- Its communications networks are at the state level connecting the state capital to districts, blocks and enabling areach to villages.
- It is also providing computer connectivity data broadcasting, TV- broadcasting facilities having applications like e-governance, development information, teleconferencing, helping disaster management.
- Providing rural-education broadcasting.

However, the Gramsat projects have an appropriate combination of following activities.

- Interactive training at district and block level employing suitable configuration
- Broadcasting services for rural development
- Computer interconnectivity and data exchange services
- Tele-health and telemedicine services.

### **Specialized Services**

#### **Email services**

The addition of Internet Access enables Astrium to act as an Internet Service Provider (ISP) capable of offering Inmarsat users a tailor-made Internet connection. With Internet services added to our range of terrestrial networks, we will no longer need to subscribe to a third party for Internet access.

We treat Internet in the same way as the other terrestrial networks and thus offer unrestricted access to this service. There is no time-consuming log-on procedure, as users are not required to submit a user-ID or password.

#### **Description of E-mail Service**

Astrum's E-Mail service allows Inmarsat users to send and receive e-mail directly through the Internet without accessing a public telephone network.

#### **Features and Benefits**

- No need to configure an e-mail client to access a Astrum e-mail account
- Service optimized for use with low bandwidth Inmarsat terminals
- Filter e-mail by previewing the Inbox and deleting any unwanted e-mails prior to downloading
- No surcharge or monthly subscription fees
- Service billed according to standard airtime prices for Inmarsat service used.

## **Video Conferencing**

Video conferencing technology can be used to provide the same full, two-way interactivity of satellite broadcast at much lower cost. For Multi-Site meetings, video conferencing uses bridging systems to connect each site to the others.

It is possible to configure a video conference bridge to show all sites at the same time on a projection screen or monitor. Or, as is more typical, a bridge can show just the site from which a person is speaking or making a presentation.

The technology that makes interactive video conferencing possible, compresses video and audio signals, thus creating an image quality lower than that of satellite broadcasts.

## **Satellite Internet Access**

**Satellite Internet Access** is Internet access provided through communications satellites. Modern satellite Internet service is typically provided to users through geostationary satellites that can offer high data speeds, with newer satellites using Ka band to achieve downstream data speeds up to 50 Mbps.

Satellite Internet generally relies on three primary components: a satellite in geostationary orbit (referred to as a geosynchronous Earth orbit, or GEO), a number of ground stations known as gateways that relay Internet data to and from the satellite via radio waves (microwave), and a VSAT (very-small-aperture terminal) dish antenna with a transceiver, located at the subscriber's premises.

Other components of a satellite Internet system include a modem at the user end which links the user's network with the transceiver, and a centralized network operations center (NOC) for monitoring the entire system.

## POSTTESTMCQ:

1. The application of Radarsat are-
  - a) Shipping & fisheries
  - b) Ocean feature mapping
  - c) Both Shipping, fisheries and ocean feature mapping
  - d) None of the other mentioned options **A**

ANSWER:c

2. For global communication, the minimum number of satellites needed is
  - a) 1
  - b) 3
  - c) 7
  - d) 11

ANSWER:b

3. The frequency band used by most satellites is
  - a) UHF
  - b) VHF
  - c) SHF
  - d) EHF

ANSWER:c

4. The optimum working frequency for satellite systems lies between
  - a) 20MHz and 100MHz
  - b) 2GHz and 12GHz
  - c) 20GHz and 100GHz
  - d) 100GHz and 200GHz **A**

ANSWER:b

5. The role of a Compressor is -
  - a) Give a poor ratio of signal to quantizing error, for weaker signals
  - b) Give preferential treatment to stronger parts of the signal
  - c) Compress the higher amplitude part of a signal before modulation and expand them back to normal gain after demodulation
  - d) None of the other mentioned

options ANSWER:c

6. In TV broadcast via satellite the TV signal from the main broadcast station is routed to the earth station via-
  - a) Low power transmitters
  - b) Microwave links
  - c) TV relay stations
  - d) Microwave repeater stations

ANSWER:d

7. Satellite used for intercontinental communications are known as
- COMAT
  - DOMSAT
  - INTELSAT
  - EARSAT

**ANSWER:c**

8. A communications satellite is a repeater between-
- one transmitting and one receiving station
  - one transmitting and many receiving stations
  - many transmitting and one receiving station
  - many transmitting and many receiving stations

**ANSWER:d**

9. GPS satellites belong to the following category-
- GEO
  - MEO
  - LEO
  - none of the above

**ANSWER:b**

10. Broadcast services include the following-
- Audio services
  - Television services
  - Internet services
  - All of these

**ANSWER:d**

## **APPLICATIONS OF SATELLITES:**

Satellites that are launched into the orbit by using the rockets are called man-made satellites or artificial satellites. Artificial satellites revolve around the earth because of the gravitational force of attraction between the earth and satellites. Unlike the natural satellites (moon), artificial satellites are used in various applications. The various applications of artificial satellites include:

1. Weather forecasting
2. Navigation
3. Astronomy
4. Satellite phone
5. Satellite television
6. Military satellite
7. Satellite internet
8. Satellite radio.

### **1. Weather forecasting**

Weather forecasting is the prediction of the future of weather. The satellites that are used to predict the future of weather are called weather satellites. Weather satellites continuously monitor the climate and weather conditions of earth. They use sensors called radiometers for

measuring the heat energy released from the earth surface. Weather satellites also predict the most dangerous storms such as hurricanes.

## **2. Navigation**

Generally, navigation refers to determining the geographical location of an object. The satellites that are used to determine the geographic location of aircrafts, ships, cars, trains, or any other object are called navigation satellites. GPS (Global Positioning System) is an example of navigation system. It allows the user to determine their exact location anywhere in the world.

## **3. Astronomy**

Astronomy is the study of celestial objects such as stars, planets, galaxies, natural satellites, comets, etc. The satellites that are used to study or observe the distant stars, galaxies, planets, etc. are called astronomical satellites. They are mainly used to find the new stars, planets, and galaxies. Hubble space telescope is an example of astronomical satellite. It captures the high-resolution images of the distant stars, galaxies, planets etc.

## **4. Satellite phone**

Satellite phone is a type of mobile phone that uses satellites instead of cell towers for transmitting the signal or information over long distances. Mobile phones that use cell towers will work only within the coverage area of a cell tower. If we go beyond the coverage area of a cell tower or if we reach the remote areas, it becomes difficult to make a voice call or send text messages with the mobile phones. Unlike the mobile phones, satellite phones have global coverage. Satellite phones use geostationary satellites and low earth orbit (LEO) satellites for transmitting the information. When a person makes a call from the satellite phone, the signal is sent to the satellite. The satellite will receive that signal, process it, and redirect the signal back to the earth via a gateway. The gateway then sends the signal or call to the destination by using the regular cellular and landline networks. The usage of satellite phones is illegal in some countries like Cuba, North Korea, Burma, India, and Russia.

## **5. Satellite television**

Satellite television or satellite TV is a wireless system that uses communication satellites to deliver the television programs or television signals to the users or viewers.

TV or television mostly uses geostationary satellites because they look stationary from the earth. Hence, the signal is easily transmitted. When the television signal is sent to the satellite, it receives the signal, amplifies it, and retransmits it back to the earth. The first satellite television signal was sent from Europe to North America by using the Telstar satellite.

## **6. Military satellite**

Military satellite is an artificial satellite used by the army for various purposes such as spying on enemy countries, military communication, and navigation.

Military satellites obtain secret information from the enemy countries. These satellites also detect the missiles launched by the other countries in the space.

Military satellites are used by armed forces to communicate with each other. These satellites are also used to determine the exact location of an object.

## **7. Satellite internet**

Satellite internet is a wireless system that uses satellites to deliver the internet signals to users. High-speed internet is the main advantage of satellite internet. Satellite internet does not use cable systems, but instead it uses satellites to transmit the information or signal.

## **8. Satellite radio**

Satellite radio is a wireless transmission

service that uses orbiting satellites to deliver the information or radio signals to the consumers. It is primarily used in the cars. When the ground

station transmits signal to the satellite that is revolving around the earth, the satellite receives the signal, amplifies it, and redirects the signal back to the earth (radio receivers in the cars).

## CONCLUSION:

At the end of the unit, the students will be able to –

- To understand the various applications of Satellites
- To understand the various applications of World Space Services

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7. M. Richharia, "Satellite Communication Systems-Design Principles", Macmillan, 2003.

## ASSIGNMENT:

1. Describe briefly the video compression process used in MPEG-2.
2. Explain about indoor and outdoor unit of home receiver.
3. Explain about frequencies and polarization, transponder capacity and bit rates for digital television.
4. Explain in detail about satellite mobile services.
5. Describe the operation of typical VSAT system. State briefly where VSAT systems and find widest applications.
6. Describe the main features of Radarsat. Explain what is meant by dawn to dusk orbit and why the Radarsat follows such an orbit.
7. Explain why a minimum of four satellites are visible at an earth location utilizing the GPS system for position determination. What does the term dilution of precision refer to?