Federal Communications Commission 445 12th St., S.W. washington, D.C. 20554

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500 Fax-On-Demand 202 / 418-2830 TTY 202 / 418-2555 Internet: http://www.fcc.gov ftp fcc.gov

> DA 01-2740 November 21, 2001

KICK-OFF NEW PHASE OF IBFS UPGRADES

INTRODUCTION

On December 5, 2001, the International Bureau (IB) will hold a round table discussion regarding a new Bureau initiative to identify and implement future enhancements to its International Bureau Electronic Filing System, IBFS. At this event IB plans to share the status of this initiative and seek preliminary input from interested parties on ways to improve electronic filing and services associated with IBFS. IBFS, an E-Gov 2001 award winner, has been and will continue to be designed based on customer needs. Therefore, all interested parties who wish to participate in the future of IBFS are encouraged to attend this event.

REPRESENTATIVE ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED

- Frequency of use of IBFS
- Issues and concerns regarding the filing of electronic applications as opposed to paper-filed applications
- Ease of handling attachments, technical schematics, exhibits, and other documentation
- Preparation and submission of application attachments, technical schematics, exhibits, and other documentation
- Level of comfort with cutting edge tools such as digital electronic signatures, biometric authentication systems, etc.
- Improvements to the data entry forms
- IBFS web-reporting module additional desirable features
- Streamlining of the Form 312 application process

- Form 405 IB renewal applications
- Improvements in the Modification application process
- Improvements in the Transfers of control or Assignments application process
- The availability of space station technical information online through IBFS
- Ad hoc query capabilities available on the IBFS Web Page
- Consistency of the look and feel of IBFS electronic forms & schedules
- Pre-filling of data fields
- Document viewing capability
- Availability of engineering tools
- Improvements in the VSAT application process
- Availability of Satellite earth station technical data in IBFS
- Ease of use for disabled people (Section 508 (Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. 794d)) requires that employees with disabilities have equal access to and use of information and data.)
- General concerns with respect to the use of the current system
- Customer service support

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION INFORMATION

IB will host the round table discussion on December 5, 2001 from 1:00 p.m. -3:00 p.m. at the FCC Headquarters facility located at $445\ 12^{th}$ St., SW., Room 6B516, Washington, DC 20554.

REGISTERING FOR THE ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

In order to ensure that adequate meeting space is provided for this event, we are requesting that interested parties, who plan to attend this round table discussion, should register by *November 28, 2001* by either calling 202-418-1631 or emailing us at IBFSPT25@fcc.gov.

WHERE TO DIRECT QUESTIONS

Questions about this event should be directed to Mary Jane Solomon, 202-418-0593, $\underline{msolomon@fcc.gov}.$