



# NEWS

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**Federal Communications Commission**  
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**Washington, D. C. 20554**

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This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC, 515 F 2d 385 (D.C. Circ 1974).

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
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## COMMISSION STREAMLINES LICENSING OF SATELLITE C-BAND SMALL EARTH TERMINALS

Washington, DC – The Federal Communications Commission has adopted a First Report and Order (Order) streamlining licensing of certain satellite earth station networks in the C-band. These satellite systems provide opportunities for deploying telecommunications services to underserved, rural and Native American areas in the United States.

The new rules, which address petitions filed by Onsat Network Communications, Inc., will provide much needed relief in the implementation of satellite networks using small aperture antenna terminals in the C-band for provision of broadband, data and other satellite telecommunications services. They also balance the requirements of the terrestrial and satellite systems that extensively share this spectrum.

The Commission's Order amends Part 25 of the Commission's rules to permit, with prior coordination, the licensing of a limited class of small aperture terminal earth station networks in the C-band (CSAT) under a single authorization. This option is available only to operators whose applications identify no more than three discrete geostationary satellites to be accessed and a maximum of 20 megahertz of spectrum in each direction for each of the satellites to be accessed. Among other things, these procedures require a CSAT applicant to complete frequency coordination for each individual earth station antenna, but will allow licensing for a system of coordinated technically-identical earth stations with simplified reporting to the Commission. In addition, where CSAT earth stations have been coordinated, the streamlined rules allow providers to operate on a conditional basis until final approval, facilitating deployment of systems and service to the public.

Action by the Commission May 23, 2001, by *First Report and Order* (FCC 01-177).  
Chairman Powell, Commissioners Ness, Furchtgott-Roth, and Tristani.

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