

International Bureau Accomplishments 2017-2020



January 13, 2021

Bridging the Digital Divide - Promoting Satellite Connectivity

Paved the way for high-speed broadband to be provided by non-geostationary orbit satellite constellations with approvals for 11 companies:

- OneWeb (June 2017 and August 2020)
- Space Norway (November 2017)
- Telesat Canada (November 2017 and November 2018)
- SpaceX (March 2018 and November 2018)
- Audacy (June 2018)
- O3b (June 2018)
- Karousel (August 2018)
- Kepler (November 2018)
- Theia (May 2019)
- ViaSat (April 2020)
- Kuiper (July 2020)

Promoting Innovation and Investment – Streamlining and Updating Regulations

- Established a new streamlined optional application process for small satellites with short duration missions.
- Updated FCC rules and expanded frequencies available for Earth Stations in Motion (ESIMs) communicating with GSO networks and established rules for ESIMs' communications with NGSO networks.
- Streamlined the rules and licensing options for satellite operators.
- Developed robust rules to mitigate orbital debris and sought comment on additional steps.

Promoting Innovation and Investment – Streamlining and Updating Regulations

- Reformed Team Telecom processes for foreign ownership review.
- Process reforms will:
 - provide for more efficient and effective review of national security, law enforcement, and trade and foreign policy implications of foreign investment in our communications sector;
 - improve our teamwork by aligning the FCC's rules with reforms adopted by the Executive Branch;
 - help us strike the right balance, encouraging foreign investment and ownership in the U.S. communications sector while limiting or barring transactions that could impair the national interest.

Enhancing Public Safety – National Security

- Scrutiny of applications and authorizations by companies with Chinese government ownership:
 - China Mobile USA
 - Orders to Show Cause
 - China Telecom Americas
 - China Unicom Americas
 - Pacific Networks, and ComNet
 - Started process for determining whether to revoke and terminate China Telecom's authority to operate in the United States
- With PSHSB, improved outage reporting obligations of submarine cable licensees to promote public safety and national security.

Enhancing Public Safety – 5G Security Advocacy

- Prague 5G Security Conference:
 - May 2019: 32 countries, including the United States, adopted the Prague Proposals establishing a framework for 5G security
 - September 2020: Second (virtual) summit addressed ongoing issues
- FCC role in whole-of-government outreach effort:
 - Chairman visited senior officials in several countries to advance 5G security and supply chain integrity, including:

Bahrain
Germany
India
Japan

Malaysia
Portugal
Saudi Arabia
Singapore

United Arab Emirates
United Kingdom
Vietnam

International Advocacy and Leadership



International Advocacy and Leadership WRC Outcomes

- 17.25 gigahertz of spectrum identified for International Mobile Telecommunications, giving governments the flexibility to use it for 5G.
 - only 1.9 gigahertz had been available before WRC-19
- Identified significant amount of spectrum for High Altitude Platform Systems at regional and global level.
- Adopted a number of regulatory improvements to permit expanded use by Non Geostationary Satellite Orbit systems
- Adopted regulatory and technical conditions for the three types of ESIM communicating with geostationary (GSO) space stations in the fixed-satellite service (FSS).
- Successfully expanded the provision of a truly global maritime distress and safety system.

IB By the Numbers

2017-2020:

- **221** international Section 214 authorizations granted
- **10,872** bilateral, regional and international notifications for terrestrial broadcast and non-broadcast services processed
- **11,605** satellite earth station applications processed
- **548** satellite space station applications processed
- **1,162** visitors welcomed through International Visitors Program **from 106** countries

C-Band milestones:

- Reviewed nearly **6,900** C-band earth station applications filed during the 6-month waiver window in 2018, encompassing more than **23,000** earth station antennas throughout the 50 states and U.S. Territories
- Reviewed **1,500** lump sum elections in six weeks last fall and accepted elections for more than **12,500** incumbent earth station antennas