



New beginnings

When Giovanni Verlini left Satellite Evolution a few weeks ago, little did I know that I would be taking his place. I was both surprised and honoured to be given the opportunity to take over where he left off and continue his excellent work.

After spending four and a half years with the Global VSAT Forum and developing a keen interest in the satellite industry I am delighted to introduce myself to you as the new Editor of the Satellite Evolution Group. I look forward to working with the superb Satellite Evolution Team and covering the issues that matter to you.

With CommunicAsia almost upon us we will be able to see the strength of the satellite industry in the Asia-Pacific region and how the market is slowly evolving with the times, and leaning towards different applications for disaster recovery, government services, homeland security, and universal access.

The opportunities and the buzz that 62,000 square metres of technology generates is sure to be as strong as ever. This year, the event is focusing on the convergence of media, IT and communications and its effect on our everyday lives. Our ability to keep in touch and access information regardless of where we are is becoming the norm. The media and entertainment industry is expected to be worth US\$431 billion by 2009. IPTV, mobile entertainment and connect digital home devices are sure to be hot topics this year. IPTV is creating an

experience comprised of interactive experiences that will see television offering more than just entertainment. The opportunities for the Asian market are plentiful but must be balanced with the risks of this relatively unproven technology.

Mobile entertainment is set to take the Asia-Pacific market by storm over the next 12 months with music and video taking the lead. The growth of VoIP technology is also expected to continue its trend of growth and convergence with broadband, driving down the costs of calls. Countries such as Korea and Australia in particular are witnessing a significant increase in demand.

The fact that the building of Next Generation Networks (NGN) is occurring at a high rate within the Asian market testifies to the fact that service providers are gradually expanding their networks to cope with expected demand in the region. The prognosis is growth, growth, growth for the industry. In sectors such as health, education, hospitality, retail and finance to name a few, connectivity via satellite is becoming more and more significant. With this in mind, I am sure that CommunicAsia will be an extremely successful and informative event. At this exciting time, with so many new developments, it's a great place to be.

I very much look forward to meeting you at CommunicAsia this year and to a long and happy career with the Satellite Evolution Team. ■

Helen Jameson
Editor