

People on the move

Satellite Evolution Asia reports on some of the latest appointments in the industry.

New Director of Sales for MEASAT

Former Intelsat Director of Sales, Soo Yew Weng has joined MEASAT. As Director of Sales for MEASAT, Soo will take on key roles in the sales, marketing and business development activities of the Kuala Lumpur-based organisation. This will include identifying new market opportunities and customers' needs, as well as developing and executing strategies for expansion.

Prior to joining Intelsat, Soo was the Managing Director of Verestar, Asia Pacific. ■



Iridium Satellite names new Executive VP for Sales, Marketing and Business Development

Iridium Satellite LLC has announced the appointment of Greg Ewert as Executive Vice President for Sales, Marketing and Business Development.

Ewert comes to Iridium from Comsat International, where he was Executive Vice President for Marketing, Sales, Business Development, Product Development and Customer Service. He has also served in senior executive positions at BCE Teleglobe Communications, Global One Communication and Sprint International of Canada. He earned a Bachelor's degree in finance

from Canisius College in Buffalo, New York.

In announcing the appointment, Carmen Lloyd, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Iridium Satellite, said: "Greg Ewert is a seasoned veteran with 19 years of experience at senior-level positions in the global telecommunications sector. He brings to his new position at Iridium a clear understanding of the rapidly changing world of telecommunications technology, and proven ability in marketing, sales and business development." ■

PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

If you want to notify the industry of a change in management or a divisional reorganisation, please contact:
giovanni@satellite-evolution.com

iDirect Technologies hires CFO

Jorge Raul Forgues has joined iDirect Technologies as its Senior Vice President (VP) and Chief Financial Officer (CFO).

iDirect has experienced a three-fold revenue gain in 2003 and is on track to double that number in 2004. Forgues' role will be to capitalise on this performance and move the company forward by raising additional capital and evaluating potential merger & acquisition opportunities which will grow the company's overall financial strength and positioning.

In the past three years the company has grown from 42 employees to 91 and expects to be near 100 by the end of the year. The company also achieved the ranking of #81 on the Inc. 500 list of America's Fastest-Growing Private Companies for 2003, and, in that same year, made Deloitte & Touche's Technology Fast 500 list of the nation's fastest-growing technology companies. Over the past year iDirect has expanded their European offices, opened new regional offices in Asia and Latin America and just recently opened new corporate offices in Herndon, Virginia. This expansion is a direct response to significant global sales growth and contract wins.

"As iDirect continues its global expansion and further develops its award-winning product portfolio, it is critical that we have the guidance of a seasoned financial professional," said John Kealey, CEO of iDirect Technologies. "Jorge is a respected leader in the industry and his global experience will be crucial as we move forward with our corporate expansion plan."

Forgues has orchestrated the financial management and funding initiatives for businesses expanding into Europe, Asia and Latin America. In addition, he has run numerous merger and acquisition efforts that have covered all phases of the deal cycle from initial acquisition strategy through closing and integration. He joins iDirect from Inter.Net Corporation, an Internet service provider with presence in ten countries, where he served as the company's Chief Financial Officer (CFO) since 2001. Forgues has also served as a Senior Financial Executive at PSINet, Trev Corporation and Best Software. ■

Terayon's President and CTO resigns

Terayon Communication Systems, Inc., a leading provider of broadband access, delivery and management platforms, has announced that Shlomo Rakib has resigned his position as the company's President and Chief Technical Officer (CTO) effective 1 October 2004. Rakib will continue to serve as a member of the Terayon Board of Directors and will be available to provide ongoing assistance with strategic and technical matters.

"For the past ten years, my entrepreneurial energy and drive have been focused exclusively on developing Terayon as a leading provider of innovative broadband solutions and best-of-breed products," said Rakib.

"We have built a strong technological foundation for the company through a portfolio of award-winning innovations, creative patents and intellectual property, and a team of talented engineers.

"Therefore, the timing is now right for me to turn my attention to my family and the next phase of my life. This move allows me to do that, while maintaining involvement with the company I love."

"On behalf of everyone at Terayon, I want to thank Shlomo for his years of total dedication and technical vision and wish him well in his future endeavors," said Jerry Chase, CEO, Terayon. ■



New Vice President of Engineering for SpaceDev

SpaceDev has announced that Frank Macklin has been promoted to Vice President of Engineering. Prior to this appointment, Macklin was Chief Engineer for hybrid rocket propulsion systems at SpaceDev.

"Frank's prior missile experience with the Air Force, and his more recent experience with the General Dynamics Atlas II launch vehicle and its Centaur upper stage, make him the right person to lead SpaceDev's engineering team," said Jim Benson, Founding Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of SpaceDev.

"Frank's broad engineering experience has already translated into an impressive body of successful space technology development projects at SpaceDev and I am thrilled that a candidate of this calibre has come from within our organisation."

Macklin is a California State registered professional electrical engineer with more than 20 years of experience with launch vehicles, ground launch control systems, launch sites and launch teams. While a member of the Peacekeeper developmental launch team, he was re-

sponsible for the US\$30 million guidance and control system, led a group of 30 industry engineers and gave the final guidance system go/no-go for launch. Continuing his career at General Dynamics (and Martin Marietta), he integrated a new guidance system onto the new generation of Atlas launch vehicles, and is intimately familiar with all aspects of vehicle flight software and hardware. He designed and implemented diverse ground guidance performance and analysis software systems, and is a complete end-to-end systems expert. At SpaceDev, Mr. Macklin has led several vehicle design and development efforts. He developed a state-of-the-art hybrid motor ballistic simulation that is the basis of SpaceDev's hybrid motor design, was the technical leader for SpaceDev's NRO funded SPOTV Hybrid System Definition study, and is Chief Engineer for SpaceDev's MoTV Hybrid Technology Development and Hybrid Booster Motor Development.

SpaceDev creates and sells affordable and innovative space products and solutions to government and commercial enter-

DigitalGlobe names new CFO

DigitalGlobe, provider of high resolution commercial satellite imagery and geospatial information products, has named a new Chief Financial Officer (CFO) to its executive team.

Yancey Spruill joins DigitalGlobe as the company's new CFO, bringing over 14 years of professional experience across several industries to the DigitalGlobe team. He comes to DigitalGlobe having most recently served as a principal in the Investment Banking group at Thomas Weisel Partners. Additionally, Spruill's prior investment banking experience includes Lehman Brothers and J.P. Morgan & Company. Spruill also brings a strong operations background to DigitalGlobe, having had a successful engineering career with Corning Incorporated and The Clorox Company.

According to Henry Dubois, DigitalGlobe President and Chief Operating Officer (COO): "With the company's ongoing growth it is imperative that we have increased depth and breadth on our management team. Having Yancey on board provides us additional financial expertise, while allowing me the opportunity to continue spending significant time with our valued customers and partners."

"Yancey brings significant expertise to the DigitalGlobe executive team, and will play an integral role in transitioning DigitalGlobe to higher levels," said Herb Satterlee, DigitalGlobe CEO and Chairman. "I'm pleased to round out our management team's attributes with Yancey's qualities."

Spruill earned a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Georgia Tech, and a Master's of Business Administration from the Amos Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth College. ■

prises. SpaceDev's innovations include the design, manufacture, marketing and operation of sophisticated micro- and nano-satellites, hybrid rocket-based

orbital Manoeuvring and orbital Transfer Vehicles as well as sub-orbital and orbital hybrid rocket-based propulsion systems for safe human space flight. ■

New Chief Scientist for NASA

NASA Administrator Sean O'Keefe has announced that Chief Scientist and veteran astronaut John Grunsfeld will return to NASA's Johnson Space Centre in Houston. In addition, O'Keefe appointed Dr James B. Garvin, Chief Scientist for NASA's Mars and lunar exploration programmes, as the new Chief Scientist, effective immediately.

Grunsfeld is training for an astronaut assignment to a long duration mission, the specifics of which will be announced at a later date.

He will also provide expert support and counsel to NASA's Astronaut Office. Grunsfeld was appointed NASA's Chief Scien-

tist in September 2003. He has been supporting Administrator O'Keefe in Washington directing NASA's space-based science objectives and ensuring the scientific merit of agency programmes.

"John's extensive background in physics and astronomy, together with his unmatched hands-on experience in conducting science operations in space, made him the ideal advisor to steer agency science decisions during his management tenure in Washington," O'Keefe said. "His unique skills will be sorely missed here, but I know he will continue to provide his valuable input to the decision process from his Johnson Space

Center vantage point as well."

Garvin, who earlier this year announced the Mars Exploration Rovers had found strong evidence liquid water once existed on the Martian surface, will work to ensure the scientific merit of NASA's programs, including those embracing exploration.

"Jim was instrumental in this most recent round of successful Mars exploration," said O'Keefe. "He played a critical role in decisions ranging from whether the rovers should fly to Mars and where they should land, to their overall science strategy on the Martian surface. His experience and extensive knowledge of agency operations will help us pursue the programmes with the

most scientific merit and relevance, as we move forward with the Vision for Space Exploration."

Grunsfeld is a veteran of four Space Shuttle flights and five successful spacewalks to upgrade the Hubble Space Telescope.

Grunsfeld received a bachelor's degree in physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1980. He earned a masters degree and a doctorate in physics from the University of Chicago in 1984 and 1988, respectively.

Garvin is currently in charge of formulating scientific requirements for NASA's missions for studying Mars and the moon. ■