



# Satellite And Telecommunications (SAT) Streamlining Act

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## FCC LICENSING PROCESS NEEDS REFORM

The space and satellite marketplace is rapidly changing. Some estimates predict the space-industry could be valued at more than \$1 trillion in the coming decades. This is presenting new opportunities for satellite operators to deploy new technologies to help close the digital divide, compete in the broadband marketplace, and provide backhaul services, and improve emergency services across the country.

However, the process for licensing satellite systems in the United States has led to challenges for both the FCC and satellite operators. Operators face delays and challenges seeking approvals for nearly every aspect of their satellite constellations, and the FCC faces challenges keeping up with the pace of innovation while constrained by outdated rules that are ill-equipped to deal with the marketplace realities of today.

## LICENSING BOTTLENECKS ARE DELAYING SATELLITE CONSTELLATION ROLLOUTS

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is statutorily responsible for licensing the authorization and use of radio spectrum for communications systems that serve the United States, including satellite services. The FCC currently has different processes for licensing Non-Geosynchronous Orbit (NGSO) or Geosynchronous Orbit (GSO) systems. In particular, the number and scale of proposed and operational NGSO constellations has strained the FCC's resources and created a regulatory bottleneck, leading to uncertainty and delays for operators seeking approval for new or modified systems.

## SECURING AMERICAN LEADERSHIP

These next-generation technologies are going to shape our economy, our country, and the world. We need to secure American leadership now, make sure U.S. and trusted companies have the tools to compete, and prevent countries like China from dominating the future. In order to encourage investment and innovation in the United States, the SAT Act will improve the FCC's processes to ensure greater certainty, transparency, and flexibility to satellite operators.

## SAT ACT STREAMLINES THE REGULATORY PROCESS BY:

- Providing Greater Direction to FCC Licensing Process;
- Reforming the FCC Licensing application and modification process to create greater regulatory certainty;
- Reducing unnecessary and outdated regulatory requirements;
- Incentivizing innovation and investment in more efficient technologies; and
- Encouraging a more responsible use of space by establishing performance requirements.

## SAT ACT IS FUTURE-FOCUSED AND WILL USHER IN A NEW ERA OF AMERICAN INNOVATION AND INVESTMENT BY:

- Encouraging more satellite operators to seek licensing in the United States;
- Streamlining the ability for operators to innovate and modify their satellite constellations to better compete against adversaries and provide trusted communications in emerging markets