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XTAR CONTINUES TO DEMONSTRATE HIGH DATA RATES FOR SMALL TERMINALS
X-band Maintains Impressive Results Through Heavy Rain

ASHBURN, Virginia (October 9, 2018) – XTAR, LLC is pleased to announce the results of a July demonstration at Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia. Partnering with Honeywell, Leidos and Newtec, XTAR’s demonstration was designed to provide a SATCOM on the move (SOTM) data link from a SOTM terminal to a hub earth station at a data rate greater than 25 Mbps. The goal was to show that high data rates can be achieved from small SOTM terminals without the use of High Throughput Satellites.

For the demonstration, XTAR used Honeywell’s Wavestorm AS-X, which is a low profile slot array antenna, suitable for either airborne or ground-based applications. The satellite used for this demonstration was the XTAR-LANT satellite located at 30°W longitude. XTAR-LANT is an X-band satellite, compatible with WGS terminals, with both global and spot beams.

A 26 Mbps satellite link was achieved between the terminal and a fixed 3.9m ground station. A 2 Mbps data link was transmitted from the fixed ground terminal to the SOTM terminal. The required space segment for the demonstration was an impressive 38.2 MHz with bandwidth efficiency of 0.73 bits/Hz, which is considered exceptionally high performance for a terminal of this size. As heavy rain began to fall, the satellite link held strong.

“These results are yet another confirmation of the power of X-band,” states Jay Icard, President and Chief Executive Officer at XTAR. “The frequency is efficient with small terminals, works well in mobile situations and remains strong in rain, wind or dust storms.”

Results from this demonstration were similar to those conducted at Bridgewater, Virginia in October, 2017 and strengthen the company’s offering to its users. As Kelly Nicklin, Vice President Sales and Marketing explains, “Less bandwidth translates into lower costs which is important for our customer. XTAR only serves the government user who requires cost efficiency combined with resilient performance.”

ABOUT XTAR

Founded in 2001, XTAR, LLC is the first commercial satellite operator to provide services in the X-band frequency. XTAR is a privately owned company backed by majority shareholder Loral Space & Communications of New York. XTAR also enjoys investment and support from minority shareholder Hisdesat Strategic Services SA. XTAR launched its fleet without government funding, employing its own technical and financial resources for a system that is reserved exclusively for the benefit of the government user. Countries around the world trust XTAR to support critical services such as border security and information gathering.