

IPSTAR Australia takes over Orion Satellite Systems

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IPSTAR Australia Pty Ltd (IPA), a wholly owned subsidiary of Thaicom Plc, has taken over Australia's Orion Satellite Systems in a drive to access corporate and enterprise sectors with premium broadband satellite services.

The 100% acquisition of the Australian satellite communication services and solutions provider is expected to strengthen IPA's operational and management skills, said Suphajee Suthumpun, chairwoman of the executive committee and chief executive of Thaicom.

Prior to the National Broadband Network (NBN) IPA dominated in satellite broadband with an 85% share of the Australian market. Today, IPA provides 95% of the capacity used by the National Broadband Network (NBN) for the Interim Satellite Service, is also a NBN retail service provider and is steadily growing its corporate customer channel. IPA intends to expand its share in the corporate market utilising Orion's complementary experience and the remaining capacity on the IPSTAR broadband satellite over Australia and Oceania.

Mrs Suthumpun said the acquisition is also expected to strengthen its end-to-end service capability. "Given Orion's vast experience in providing premium satellite services and solutions, it will complement our existing products and services portfolio and drive the take-up of IPSTAR in the enterprise, corporate and government markets in Australia," she said.

Supoj Chinveeraphan, IPA's general manager, said the acquisition will allow IPA to gain access to Orion's highly skilled, professional engineering and solutions development team. He said Orion has a strong reputation for excellent customer service and technical know-how. "We hope we will be better able to meet the demand from our existing and new channel partners and customers," said Dr Chinveeraphan.

About THAICOM

THAICOM Public Company Limited, a leading Asian satellite operator, was established in 1991. The Company was the first to launch a broadband satellite in the world, and is a leader in developing integrated solutions for satellite broadcast and broadband services. The Company's engineering teams provide leading-edge innovative solutions for satellite-based telecommunications services. Since its establishment the Company has launched six satellites, with three satellites in operation: Thaicom 4 (IPSTAR) is the Company's broadband satellite which provides a variety of broadband and data services, including mobile backhaul, mobility, government USO support, content delivery, business continuity and emergency services, as well as broadband internet services to 14 countries throughout Asia Pacific; Thaicom 5 is a 'hotbird' satellite positioned at 78.5 degrees East, and carries more than 600 television channels for broadcast across Asia Pacific; Thaicom 6 is collocated with Thaicom 5 at 78.5 degrees East to expand the Company's broadcast carrying capacity. Thaicom 7, a future satellite, will be launched to the 120 degrees East orbital slot later in 2014. THAICOM is traded on the Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET) under the trade symbol "THCOM". For more information on Thaicom Public Company Limited, visit www.thaicom.net.

About IPSTAR Australia

IPSTAR Australia Pty Ltd (IPA) is Australia's leading broadband satellite operator with a successful track record of providing the Australian nation with cost-effective satellite broadband capacity and services since 2005. IPA is working closely with the Australian Government's National Broadband Network (NBN) to

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provide affordable satellite broadband services to meet the demand of businesses and rural residential homes throughout the country. IPA is fully owned by Thaicom Public Company Limited, a leading Asian satellite operator based in Thailand. For more information on Thaicom Public Company Limited, visit www.ipstaraustralia.com.

About Orion Satellite Systems

Founded in 2003, Orion Satellite Systems offers a market-leading portfolio of value-added satellite communications services in Australia and Oceania. The company holds a full carrier licence for the provision of telephone and data services to customers in Australia, Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands. It continues to focus on providing high-performance solutions to developing countries. These services are provided through custom-tailored communications systems, primarily what are termed very small aperture terminal-based solutions. For more information on Orion, visit www.orionsat.com.au

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