



SPACE DATA
ASSOCIATION

For Immediate Release

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Space Data Center Attains Full Operational Capability Status

ISLE OF MAN (20 September 2011)—[The Space Data Association](#) (SDA), established by commercial satellite operators to improve the safety and efficiency of space operations, today announced that the Full Operational Capability (FOC) analysis system in the SDA's Space Data Center successfully met SDA objectives and became operational on 15 September 2011. The FOC, developed by the SDA's main technical adviser and systems developer [Analytical Graphics, Inc. \(AGI\)](#), implements a highly-available, secure and automated Space Situational Awareness (SSA) analysis system. This system provides SDA members with full Conjunction Assessment (CA) capability (assessing the physical proximity of objects in space) and data sharing in support of radio frequency interference (RFI) mitigation.

The SDC FOC system converts disparate operator data to a common "normalized" format and performs integrity checks on contributed ephemerides, making the information more reliable. By accessing this authoritative SDA operator-owned orbital data, the system is able to provide SDA members with the most up-to-date SSA reports available for their assets.

The SDC began initial operations in July 2010 for SDA founding members Inmarsat, Intelsat and SES and, with the transfer of AGI's prototype SOCRATES geosynchronous Earth orbit (GEO) and low Earth orbit (LEO) conjunction assessment programs to the SDC in December 2010, the SDC now provides CA processing for more than 65% of all operational satellites in GEO.

SDA Chairman Stewart Sanders says, "It is a great achievement for us to reach operational status for our new FOC system. Reaching this milestone is directly due to the hard work of AGI and of the technical support from the SDA's satellite operator members. With this achievement, we will seek to further expand our membership."

The SDA is also pursuing data-sharing agreements with a variety of government and industry data providers to enhance the scope and quality of data available for these critical operations.

About SDA

The Space Data Association Limited (SDA) is a non-profit international association of satellite operators that supports the controlled, reliable and efficient sharing of data critical to the safety and integrity of the space environment and the RF spectrum. It maintains the Space Data Center, a database of high-accuracy orbital information, which is operated by Analytical Graphics, Inc. (AGI) of Exton, PA. Established in the Isle of Man by Inmarsat, Intelsat and SES, the SDA is open to all satellite operators and other participants. Membership information can be found at www.space-data.org.

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Space Data Association Limited (also trading as "the Space Data Association" or "the SDA")
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