



## Space Data Association: NOAA to Participate in the SDA

ISLE OF MAN (22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2012) – [The Space Data Association](#) (SDA), established by commercial satellite operators to improve the safety and efficiency of space operations, today announced that the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA, [www.noaa.gov](http://www.noaa.gov)) has signed an agreement with the SDA to use the SDA's services. NOAA is a US federal agency whose National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service (NESDIS) is dedicated to providing timely access to global environmental data from satellites and other sources to promote, protect, and enhance the United States economy, security, environment, and quality of life. This is achieved in part through its operation of environmental monitoring satellites in both geosynchronous and polar orbits.

The SDA seeks the participation of all satellite operators globally and NOAA's participation represents the first governmental satellite operator to improve their safety of flight by participating in Space Data Center operations.

SDA Chairman Stewart Sanders said, 'This agreement with NOAA is particularly gratifying as it shows that we can find a way to engage with commercial/governmental entities while retaining the benefits of the strong legal data protection framework we have put in place for the SDA members. I fully expect that other governmental agencies will also see the benefits of subscribing to the SDA's unique capabilities and will shortly follow NOAA's lead.'

### 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, its executive members are Eutelsat, 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](http://www.space-data.org).