



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **International Forum on Satellite Interference Mitigation Planned in New York City for SATCON 2010**

**Industry to Strengthen Collaborative Efforts on Training, Carrier ID, Data Sharing, and Other  
Methods to Combat Satellite Interference**

**1 June, 2010**

**Washington, DC, Punta Gorda, FL, Toronto, Canada.** – In their continuing fight against the global problem of satellite signal theft and interference, leading satellite industry organizations will host a *Satellite Interference-Mitigation Forum* on October 12, the day preceding SATCON 2010 in New York City.

CNN and the World Broadcasting Unions - International Satellite Operations Group (WBU-ISOG) will host the Forum as initiative supporters. The Forum will be organized jointly by GVF, the Global VSAT Forum and SUIRG, the Satellite Users Interference Reduction Group. The complimentary event will be held from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm at the CNN New York Bureau in the Time Warner Center and will provide an opportunity to learn about the latest of several industry solutions underway to improve quality of service and reduce operational costs. "WBU-ISOG and CNN are very pleased to host and encourage this important gathering to further efforts to diminish the problems associated with satellite interference, for both broadcasters and others who depend upon satellite communications. Meeting just in advance of SATCON is most timely as a way to attract industry experts to help advance this vital program", said Dick Tauber, VP of Transmission Systems and New Technology for the CNN News Group and Chairman of WBU-ISOG.

"Signal theft and interference have been escalating globally, which is adversely impacting satellite broadcast and telecommunication services," said the Forum organizers in a joint statement made by GVF, SUIRG and WBU-ISOG. "The problem is attributable to numerous sources of interference, each of which calls for a different solution. We are pleased to work together with all Satellite Operators and the End User community to identify effective measures to address the issue."

The Forum will feature executives from major satellite operators, broadcasters, MSS and VSAT service providers, equipment manufacturers and other organizations with vested interests in helping combat the growing problem of satellite radio interference. Participants will delve into the latest developments of each facet of this crucial industry-changing initiative, evaluate their relative merits, and encourage broader industry dialogue and participation.

The Forum will feature topics such as:

- Characterizing the Interference Challenge
- Improving Deployments: VSAT and SNG Installation & Operations Training
- Tracking Remote Interference Sources
- Enabling Product Quality: Earth-Station Type Approvals
- Interference-Fighting Tools
- Addressing Terrestrial Wireless Interference

Reinforcing this hallmark industry collaboration, in the past year 18 leading satellite operators formed an alliance to launch a global initiative to mitigate interference through various means, including:

- Endorsement and support for expanded delivery of GVF's VSAT Installation Certification Program,
- Advancement of the SUIRG effort to employ Carrier-ID solutions as a means of identifying sources and location of interference generated by satellite earth terminals, and
- Creation of a global data-sharing centre, registered on the Isle of Man.

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**Interference Mitigation Forum Announcement  
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“In parallel with this operator-backed initiative, the satellite industry has also implemented complementary solutions to address other interference sources,” said David Hartshorn, GVF Secretary General. “For example, to ensure production of high-performance satellite Earth stations, the industry has established an outsourced-type approvals mechanism called the Mutual Recognition Arrangement.” The industry has also mounted an international coordination effort to address mounting levels of interference generated by terrestrial wireless services. “These and other RFI-fighting remedies will be covered in detail at the October 12 Forum,” Hartshorn added.

Attendance at the Forum is free, but registration is required as seating will be limited. To reserve a place for your organization pre-register at <http://suirg.org/SATCON-FORUM-register.shtml>. More information and a complete Forum agenda will be posted shortly at the following sites: [www.gvf.org](http://www.gvf.org), [www.suirg.org](http://www.suirg.org) and [www.worldbroadcastingunions.org](http://www.worldbroadcastingunions.org).

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**About WBU-ISOG: ([www.worldbroadcastingunions.org](http://www.worldbroadcastingunions.org))**

Founded in 1985, the International Satellite Operations Group (ISOG) is a committee of the World Broadcasting Unions (WBU). ISOG provides a global forum for members of the WBU to exchange information, outline requirements and resolve common operational problems. WBU-ISOG's mission is to identify, evaluate, and implement solutions for all operational matters associated with transmission (by satellite or any other means) of video, audio, and broadcast-related data material from sites of news, sports, special events and entertainment, and to work with all international groups, institutions, organizations, and appropriate bodies to achieve these solutions. In this endeavour WBU-ISOG reflects one of the aims of the WBU by including and supporting the needs and requirements of broadcasters around the world. WBU-ISOG meetings are held twice a year and permit open dialogue from an international perspective on key satellite communications issues. WBU-ISOG is a tri-partite organization whose participants include members from the WBU including broadcasters, satellite and fibre optic carriers, transmission service providers and invited participants associated with the industry.

**About GVF ([www.gvf.org](http://www.gvf.org))**

Formed in 1998, GVF is the non-profit international association of the satellite communications industry. The GVF consists of more than 180 members from 80 countries in every major region of the world, including satellite operators, manufacturers, network service providers, system integrators, carriers and other related organizations. The Forum's primary objective is to promote the industry, serve as a focal point for all sectors of the communications community, and facilitate improved market-access and regulatory conditions.

**About SUIRG ([www.suirg.org](http://www.suirg.org))**

SUIRG is an international not-for-profit assembly of parties with representation from both the private and public sector organized to combat the increasing and costly problem of satellite RF interference. SUIRG actively pursues programs to reduce radio frequency interference incidents such as a) Carrier ID encoding; b) improved operational training, procedures and certification programs; c) improved detection and identification tools, and e) sharing of information and solutions among members. SUIRG's objective is to stop interference before it starts.

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