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INTERNATIONAL BUREAU ANNOUNCES THE LAUNCH OF A NEW WEB-BASED SATELLITE SPACE STATION ELECTRONIC FILING SYSTEM

NEW "SCHEDULE S" GOES LIVE ON JULY 25, 2016

IB Docket No. 12-267

The International Bureau announces the launch of a new electronic filing system for the creation of Schedule S, which will be available for use by the public starting at noon on July 25, 2016. Schedule S, used for documenting the technical characteristics of proposed satellite operations, is an annex to FCC Form 312, a key requirement in the licensing process for satellite services. The new web-based system and the associated instructions can be found via the International Bureau Filing System (IBFS) website at http://licensing.fcc.gov/myibfs.

The new electronic filing system is intended to significantly improve the Schedule S application process and enhance its reliability. In addition, the new system has been designed to match the requirements of the rule changes adopted in the *Part 25 Report and Order* and in the *Part 25 Second Report and Order*, which are expected to take effect this summer.² For the interim period before the changes become effective, applicants will have the option of using the existing application filing software or the new electronic filing system.³ After the *Part 25 Second Report and Order* rules become effective, use of the new web-based Schedule S system will become mandatory. The Commission will release a separate public notice announcing when the rule changes adopted in the *Part 25 Second Report and Order* become effective and the use of the new Schedule S system will become mandatory.

¹ Schedule S is required to be provided in applications for space station licenses or requests for U.S. market access by non-U.S. licensed space stations. Schedule S must be completed when an amendment or modification involves changes to previously-submitted Schedule S information.

²Comprehensive Review of Licensing and Operating Rules for Satellite Services, Report and Order, 28 FCC Rcd 12403 (2013) (Part 25 Report and Order); Comprehensive Review of Licensing and Operating Rules for Satellite Services, Second Report and Order, 30 FCC Rcd 14713 (2015) (Part 25 Second Report and Order).

³ For applicants choosing to use the new system during this interim period, we will waive on our own motion Sections 25.210(i) (requirement to provide the cross-polarization isolation for all services except for the 17/24 GHz Broadcast Satellite Service or the Direct Broadcast Satellite service), and 25.210(a)(3) (requirement that the polarization of C-band transmissions to be switchable upon command), and the associated information filing requirements, which will be eliminated when the rule changes become effective.

For more information about this Public Notice, please contact Kathyrn Medley at (202) 418-1211 (<u>Kathyrn.Medley@fcc.gov</u>), or Kathleen Campbell (<u>Kathleen.Campbell@fcc.gov</u>) at (202) 418-0753.