Minutes (approved at ICC 2002, New York)

IEEE Communications Society
Satellite and Space Communications (SSC) Technical Committee

Meeting at GLOBECOM 2001, San Antonio, Texas
Tuesday 27 November 2001, 7:30 AM – 9:00 AM
Conference Rooms 3&4, Marriot River Center Hotel
by: Abbas Jamalipour, SSC TC Secretary

1. Call to Order
The meeting was called to order by the SSC TC Vice Chair Ron Smith at 7:35 AM. Attendees introduced themselves.

Apologies received from members John Everett and Larry Jacques were stated by the chair.

2. Acceptance of Agenda
The agenda was presented and is reflected in the outline of the minutes. A new item on status of standards has been requested and added to the agenda by the member Sastri Kota.

3. Acceptance of Minutes of the Last Meeting
The minutes of the last meeting held during ICC2001 in Helsinki, Finland were presented and accepted.

4. Conference Reports
(1) GLOBECOM2001(San Antonio, Texas), Abbas Jamalipour reporting:
In this GLOBECOM conference, SSC organized one symposium entitled “Satellite Communications for Global IP and ATM Networking”. The symposium is chaired by Abbas Jamalipour and consists of 3 full sessions and one panel. The symposium covers all three days of the conference including Monday morning, Tuesday afternoon and all day Wednesday. The panel included in the symposium entitled “Market Trends and Technological Developments for DVB-RCS.” organized by Dr Jason Neale, EMS Technologies Canada Limited, and covers a talk from Dr. Harald Skinnemoen, Nera and Chairman of ETSI Workgroup on Broadband Satellite Multimedia on “Global Standardization and Regulatory Efforts for Broadband Satellite Communications.” A tutorial on broadband satellites is also included in the GLOBECOM2001 program but it is not sponsored by the SSC committee.

(2) ICC2002 (New York City, NY), Iwao Sasase reporting:
Iwao Sasase is the chair for the SSC symposium in ICC2002. He attended the ICC2002 TPC meeting held during GLOBECOM2001. 1583 papers have been submitted to ICC2002 and SSC received 36 papers for the symposium. The acceptance rate for ICC2002 will be 40%. 5 sessions have been allocated to the SSC symposium each to include 4 papers (1.5 hour sessions). Sessions will includes topics on trends in packet oriented multimedia satellite communications, modulation schemes, advanced satellite systems, and broadband satellites.

(3) GLOBECOM2002 (Taipei), Sastri Kota reporting:
Guy Omidyar is the chair for SSC symposium in GLOBECOM2002 but he hasn’t attended the meeting. Sastri Kota and Satchandi Verma attended the GLOBECOM2002 TPC meeting held during GLOBECOM2001. Sastri Kota outlined the progress and mentioned that Expotrack will be again used for handling the review process for GLOBECOM2002. Information on submission of papers and proposals for tutorials and workshops are available from the GLOBECOM2002 web site. There will be special events for 50th anniversary of ComSoc during GLOBECOM2002. Abbas Jamalipour raised the issue of unclear call-for-papers for the SSC symposium on the web. Sastri Kota explained that SSC will be the main sponsor for the symposium.

(4) ICSSC2002 (Montreal), ICSSC2003 (Yokohama), and ICSSC2004 (TBD), Ron Smith reporting:
Ron Smith explained the annual AIAA ICSSC conference to the meeting. Information about this event can also be found in the June 2001 issue of the SSC Newsletter. IEEE ComSoc was a cosponsor in ICSSC2001 held in Toulouse, France, and will be a technical cosponsor in ICSSC2002. Members are advised of the web site for more information at www.aiaa.icssc.org.

(5) WCNC2002 (Orlando, Florida), Abbas Jamalipour reporting:
Abbas Jamalipour outlined the IEEE WCNC conference and that the SSC is not officially a sponsor for this conference. A request for reviewing around 10 papers related to satellite communications has been received from C-K. Toh, TPC co-chair of WCNC2002. Abbas Jamalipour acknowledged the help from SSC members in reviewing those papers. Out of 568 papers submitted to WCNC2002, 167 papers have been accepted. WCNC2002 will be held in Orlando between 17 and 21 March 2002.

(6) Other conferences sponsored by SSC
Iwao Sasase mentioned 2001 Joint conference on Satellite Communications (JC-SAT) held in Kyoto, Japan which was jointly organized by Satellite Telecommunications Technical Committee of IEICE and Korean Society of Space Technology. More information is available on page 3 of the SSC Newsletter November 2001 issue (Message from the chair section). Iwao Sasase had a keynote talk in that conference on technical activities of IEEE ComSoc SSC TC and AP board.

5. New Officer Selection Committee, Iwao Sasase
SSC Chair, Iwao Sasase stated that the SSC two-year office term will finish in June 2002 and we need to find new officers for Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary positions. A selection committee consists of the current chair, Iwao Sasase, past chair, Satchandi Verma, and committee advisor, Desmond Taylor will prepare the list of new officers. In particular a new Secretary candidate is required for the next term. Information on job tasks of the SSC officers is available on the SSC web site. Anyone who would like to be considered for the Secretary position should contact the SSC Chair, Iwao Sasase by the end of year 2001.

6. Status of Standards, Sastri Kota
Sastri Kota raised the issue as an important topic and explained different organizations involved in the standardization process, including ITU (2 sectors) for IP over satellite, IETF for TCP over satellite (RFC 2488), ETSI, for which Harald Skinnemoen is the chair for broadband multimedia satellites, TIA for IP over satellite and QoS architecture. He mentioned that he has copies of documents for interested people. Next ITU meeting will be in April, Geneva.

Satchandi Verma added two other bodies MWIF and TMF.

Harald Skinnemoen also mentioned the DVB-RCS and ESA activities and said that researchers working on terrestrial and satellite communications separately should work together for a better performance.

Ron Smith proposed to have a full-day workshop on standards for better understanding of all these issues. Satchandi Verma proposed such a workshop for inclusion in the GLOBECOM2002 symposium.

7. Status of the New SSC TC Award (Distinguished Contributions to Satellite Communications Award), Abbas Jamalipour
Secretary, Abbas Jamalipour stated that he hasn’t received any application or nomination for this year award and therefore there will be no award for this year. He encouraged people to nominate their colleagues or themselves for the next year award. The deadline for award nomination/application is October 1st, each year to the SSC Secretary and information about the award and its procedure is available on the SSC web site.

Member Mario Marchese raised the issue that people may hesitate to nominate themselves and proposed to have a committee to nominate appropriate candidates if there is no application. Members agreed with this proposal and it has been decided to include a new sub-committee for this matter under the award process. Members Mario Marchese and Desmond Taylor volunteered to do this job. Any other person interested to help them, please contact SSC chair or secretary.

8. SSC Newsletter, Web, Email list, and Membership status, Abbas Jamalipour
Abbas Jamalipour (SSC Secretary) explained about the format of the SSC bi-annual Newsletter, which is distributed electronically on the SSC web and in hardcopy during ICC and GLOBECOM conferences. He has asked members to actively participate in preparation of the Newsletter in the form of sending contribution articles for inclusion in the Newsletter. For November 2001 there is no perspective article, as we have not received any submission. Abbas Jamalipour encouraged people to submit their articles for the next issue to be published in April 2002.

There was some discussion on reviewers’ list on the SSC web site and the requirement for updating it. Please check your areas of interest for review papers and let SSC Secretary know of any change or additional topics.
9. New and Old Business, Iwao Sasase

(1) SSC Long Term Planning and Budget
SSC Chair, Iwao Sasase mentioned that TC revises this every three years and all information is available on the SSC web site. He asked that if you need to have any other information or add anything, to contact the SSC chair.

(2) Strengthening Ties with other Committees
Ron Smith asked anyone who wants to be involved with AIAA and/or to become a member, to contact him. For the committee there is a limit on number of US members of 35 but there is no limit on overseas members number.

Iwao Sasase also mentioned about collaboration with Korean and Japanese satellite committees.

Ron Smith told the meeting that Member John Everett has sent the SSC Newsletter to IEE.

10. AOB
Abbas Jamalipour explained the current direction of IEEE Communications Magazine publication after his attendance in the Magazine board during ICC2001. Members Sastri Kota and Abbas Jamalipour will try to push a satellite special issue for the magazine in future.

Member Mario Marchese proposed to have a workshop consists of selected excellent papers in each conference on a specific trend of current or future works on satellite communications. There were some discussion and comments on this proposal.

Chair Iwao Sasase called for volunteers for SSC representatives for ICC2003 and GLOBECOM2003. Satchandi Verma and Reza Soleymani accepted the role for ICC2003 and to attend the first TPC meeting held in GLOBECOM2001, Sastri Kota and Mario Marchese accepted to act as SSC Representatives for GLOBECOM2003.

11. Time and Place of Next Meeting
The next SSC TC meeting will be held at ICC2002, New York City, in the morning of the second day of technical sessions, as usual (unless the conference organizer allocates different timeslot). SSC Members will be notified about the location and exact date/time close to the conference date by email.

12. Adjourn - The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 AM.

Attendance (21):

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