

## **EUTELSAT 3D goes into full commercial service at 3° East**

### **Eutelsat satellite deployments to optimise capacity at the HOT BIRD position at 13° East and at 7/8° West**

**Paris, 19 June 2013** – The EUTELSAT 3D satellite of Eutelsat Communications (Euronext Paris: ETL) went into full commercial service this morning at 3° East with all traffic transferred overnight from EUTELSAT 3C onto the new satellite. With 33 operational transponders (32 Ku transponders of which 15 are 72 MHz and one 108 MHz Ka transponder), additional capacity is now available from 3° East to address video, data, telecom and broadband markets in Europe and also in Africa through a new service area.

EUTELSAT 3D will operate at 3° East until the deployment of the EUTELSAT 3B satellite to this position in second quarter 2014 to provide further spectrum growth and high levels of operational flexibility in C, Ku and Ka bands.

The entry into service of EUTELSAT 3D enables Eutelsat to initiate enhancements to its fleet that will bring higher in-orbit security and increased capacity.

EUTELSAT 3C will be deployed in early July from 3° East to the HOT BIRD position at 13° East. Renamed HOT BIRD 13D, it will be colocated with the identical HOT BIRD 13B and C satellites. With each bird equipped with 64 high-power Ku-band transponders, they together span the entire range of 102 Ku-band frequencies at 13° East and will deliver broadcast customers industry-leading levels of security and 100% in-orbit redundancy.

The reconfiguration of the HOT BIRD constellation will release the HOT BIRD 13A satellite which will be deployed to 7/8° West. Renamed EUTELSAT 8 West C, it will enable Eutelsat to switch on additional transponders at the key neighbourhood for satellite television in North Africa and the Middle East. The 7/8° West arc, already hosting EUTELSAT and Nilesat satellites, broadcasts over 1,000 channels to more than 30 million homes and represents one of the fastest growing neighbourhoods for digital services. This orbital position will get a further boost in the second half of 2015 with the launch of EUTELSAT 8 West B.

#### **About Eutelsat Communications**

Eutelsat Communications is the holding company of Eutelsat S.A. With capacity commercialised on 30 satellites delivering reach of Europe, the Middle East, Africa, Asia, significant parts of the Americas and the Asia-Pacific, Eutelsat Communications (Euronext Paris: ETL, ISIN code: FR0010221234) is one of the world's leading satellite operators. As of 31 March 2013, Eutelsat's satellites were broadcasting more than 4,600 television channels to over 200 million cable and satellite homes in Europe, the Middle East and Africa. The Group's satellites also provide a wide range of services for TV contribution, corporate networks and fixed and mobile broadband markets. Headquartered in Paris, Eutelsat and its subsidiaries employ over 780 commercial, technical and operational professionals from 30 countries. [www.eutelsat.com](http://www.eutelsat.com)

## For further information

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