



## International PRESS RELEASE

## FRENCH DIGITAL TERRESTRIAL FREE-TV TNTSAT ALREADY REACHES 350,000 HOUSEHOLDS

Paris/ Betzdorf (Luxembourg), 25 February 2008. – SES ASTRA, an SES company (Euronext Paris and Luxembourg Stock Exchange: SESG), and French pay-TV group CANAL+ have announced today that the digital terrestrial free-TV offer *TNTSAT* has significantly gained reach. Following its successful launch in 2007, and a marketing campaign led by ASTRA France, already 350,000 receivers have been sold to French households. *TNTSAT* is a service for French TV viewers offering the whole range of terrestrial digital free-TV channels over the ASTRA satellites, and allowing a 100%-coverage of the French territory.

A law passed on 5 March 2007 in France sets out the conditions to ensure that 100% of the French population receives free digital terrestrial television (Télévision Numérique Terrestre, TNT). The law recognizes the role of satellite in achieving this objective. In regions where households cannot receive signals from terrestrial antennas, SES ASTRA and CANAL+ offer their satellite solution *TNTSAT*. The test phase of *TNTSAT* started in June 2007. Since autumn 2007 *TNTSAT* receivers have been available in large quantities. *TNTSAT* offers access to 18 free-TV channels, to the France O program and 24 regional programs of France 3, all without a subscription. To receive *TNTSAT* households need a 60cm satellite dish, pointed to ASTRA's prime orbital position at 19.2 degrees East, and a *TNTSAT* receiver with a smart card.

"The overwhelming success of *TNTSAT* is further proof that our satellite system is a very strong infrastructure driving the expansion of digital TV and helping to overcome the digital divide," says Ferdinand Kayser, President and CEO of SES ASTRA. "Together with our long-standing customer CANAL+, we have created a strong offer that brings real added value to television households. *TNTSAT* underpins our success in the French market through our enlarged partnership with CANAL+, and will continue to be a significant driver to grow our reach to French TV households."

For further information on TNTSAT see <u>www.tntsat.tv</u>.

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## About SES ASTRA

www.ses-astra.com

SES ASTRA is the leading Direct-to-Home (DTH) satellite system in Europe, delivering services to more than 109 million DTH and cable households. The satellite fleet currently comprises 12 ASTRA and three SIRIUS satellites. The combined satellite system transmits a total of 2,295 analogue and digital television as well as radio channels. SES ASTRA also provides satellite-based multimedia, internet and telecommunication services to enterprises, governments and their agencies. With 26 High Definition (HD) channels available via its satellites today, ASTRA is also the most important HDTV broadcasting platform in Europe. The prime orbital positions for ASTRA and SIRIUS are 19.2° East, 28.2° East, 23.5° East and 5° East.

SES ASTRA is an SES company (Euronext Paris and Luxembourg Stock Exchange: SESG). SES owns three market-leading satellite operators, SES ASTRA in Europe, SES AMERICOM in North America, and SES NEW SKIES, which provide global coverage and connectivity. The Company also holds strategic participations in SES SIRIUS in Europe, Ciel in Canada and Quetzsat in Mexico. SES provides outstanding satellite communications solutions via a fleet of 38 satellites in 25 orbital positions around the globe. Additional information on SES is available at: <a href="http://www.ses.com">www.ses.com</a>

## About CANAL+ www.canalplus.fr

Canal+ group is France's leading pay-tv operator with a 20-year experience in channel production and distribution, as well as a pioneer in developing new TV services. Canal+ Group totals more than 10.5 million subscriptions over all distribution platforms.