



## **CIEL-2 SATELLITE NOW OPERATIONAL**

### **Satellite Completes all Testing and Begins Commercial Service at 129 Degrees West**

February 5th, 2009 – Ottawa, Canada – The Ciel Satellite Group today announced that its first communications satellite, Ciel-2, has completed all in-orbit testing and has now entered commercial service at the 129 degrees West Longitude orbital position.

The new satellite was launched last December 10 from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan, and will be providing high-definition (HD) television services to the North American market, primarily for anchor customer DISH Network Corporation.

“We are very pleased that Ciel-2 has successfully completed all of its initial testing, and are excited about its entry into commercial operations,” said Brian Neill, Executive Chairman of Ciel. “The support of many parties, particularly our shareholders and Industry Canada, has been central to our success, and we look forward to a bright future of serving customers for many years to come throughout North America.”

#### **About Ciel-2**

Built by Thales Alenia Space, Ciel-2 is the largest Spacebus class spacecraft ever built, weighing 5,592 kg at launch; Ciel-2 is expected to operate for at least 15 years. The new BSS spacecraft is capable of serving all regions of Canada visible from 129 degrees West, as well as the larger North American market. The Ciel Satellite Group was awarded the license for 129 degrees West by Industry Canada in October 2004. Ciel-2 will be operated from the new Satellite Operations Centre at SED Systems located in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada.

The Ciel-2 satellite is designed to provide 10.6 kilowatts of power to the communications payload at end of life, which consists of 32 Ku-band transponders. The all Ku-band BSS satellite features high frequency re-use and both regional and spot beams. The designated mission of Ciel-2 is to expand the bandwidth resources needed to increase the number of high definition and other TV services offered by broadcasters throughout North America.

#### **About Ciel Satellite**

Ciel is a Canadian owned and controlled organization supported by a strong combination of partners, including: Borealis Infrastructure (part of the OMERS Pension Plan's group of companies); Canadian satellite pioneer Brian Neill; and SES AMERICOM, an SES

S.A. Company (Euronext Paris and Luxembourg Stock Exchange: SESG), a worldwide leader in the satellite industry.

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