



PRESS RELEASE

TOWERCOM LAUNCHES NEW HD SERVICES ON ASTRA

Czech and Slovak operator of Skylink now uses three ASTRA transponders

Luxembourg, 24 March 2009. – SES ASTRA, an SES company (Euronext Paris and Luxembourg Stock Exchange: SESG), announced today that the Slovak telecommunications and TV operator Towercom has contracted an additional transponder on ASTRA's orbital position 23.5 degrees East in order to launch new HD services. Towercom operates the Skylink TV platform in Slovakia and the Czech Republic. With the new contract, Towercom increases the number of transponders in use for the Czech and Slovak markets to three.

Towercom is successfully developing its Skylink platform via ASTRA's 23.5 degrees East orbital position which is becoming a new prime position for Direct-to-Home (DTH) services in Central and Eastern Europe. Skylink has so far distributed 600,000 smart cards in the Czech and the Slovak Republic.

With the agreement and the launch of new HD channels on its satellite fleet, SES ASTRA will maintain its position as most important HD platform in Europe.

"The capacity increase by Towercom shows how dynamically these countries and markets continue to develop," says Alexander Oudendijk, Chief Commercial Officer of SES ASTRA. "Our 23.5 degrees East orbital position is becoming increasingly attractive and important for more and more broadcasters in Central and Eastern Europe."

"Our objective is to provide high quality and innovative services", says Roman Fischer, Chairman of the Board of Towercom. "The impressive increase in the number of Skylink customers proves that we are following the right course."

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About SES ASTRA www.ses-astra.com

SES ASTRA is the leading Direct-to-Home (DTH) satellite system in Europe. The satellite fleet currently comprises 14 ASTRA and two SIRIUS satellites. The combined satellite system delivers services to more than 122 million DTH and cable households and transmits nearly 2,500 analogue and digital television and radio channels. SES ASTRA also provides satellite-based multimedia, internet and telecommunication services to enterprises, governments and their agencies. With nearly 70 High Definition (HD) channels on its main orbital positions, ASTRA and SIRIUS represent the most important HDTV platform for Europe's leading broadcasters. The prime orbital positions for ASTRA and SIRIUS are 19.2° East, 28.2° East, 23.5° East, 5° East and 31.5° 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 provides global coverage and connectivity. The company owns 90 percent of SES SIRIUS in Europe, as well as strategic participations in Ciel in Canada and QuetzSat in Mexico. SES provides outstanding satellite communications solutions via a fleet of 40 satellites in 26 orbital positions around the globe. Additional information on SES is available at: www.ses.com

About Towercom <u>www.skylink.sk</u>

Towercom, Inc. is privately-owned TV and telecommunications operator based in Bratislava, Slovakia. Towercom serves Slovakian and Czech Free-to-Air and encrypted TV channels, mobile phone operators, incumbent and alternative fix telecommunications operators, state authorities, utility providers and other entrerprises. Towercom, Inc. is operating the digital satellite platform Skylink as well as the pay-TV package MULTI.