

# The Journey of O3b

## The World's First Broadband NGSO Constellation

*2022 Clarksburg Seminar on Advanced Satellite Communications*

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# The Path

2007

O3b  
founded by  
Greg Wyler

2008

Investments  
from Google,  
Liberty, HSBC

2009

SES  
Invests  
in O3b

2013

First 4  
satellites  
launched

2016

SES  
Acquires  
O3b

2018

Expands  
to 20 total  
satellites

2017

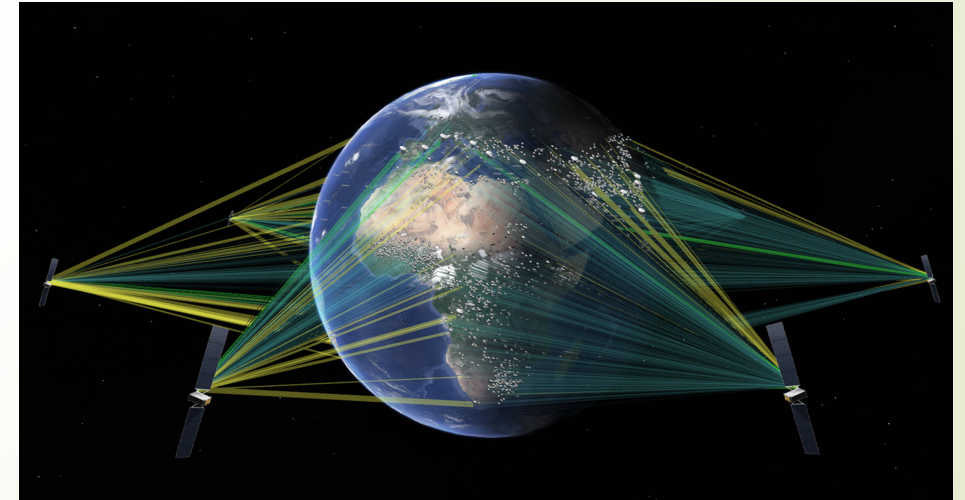
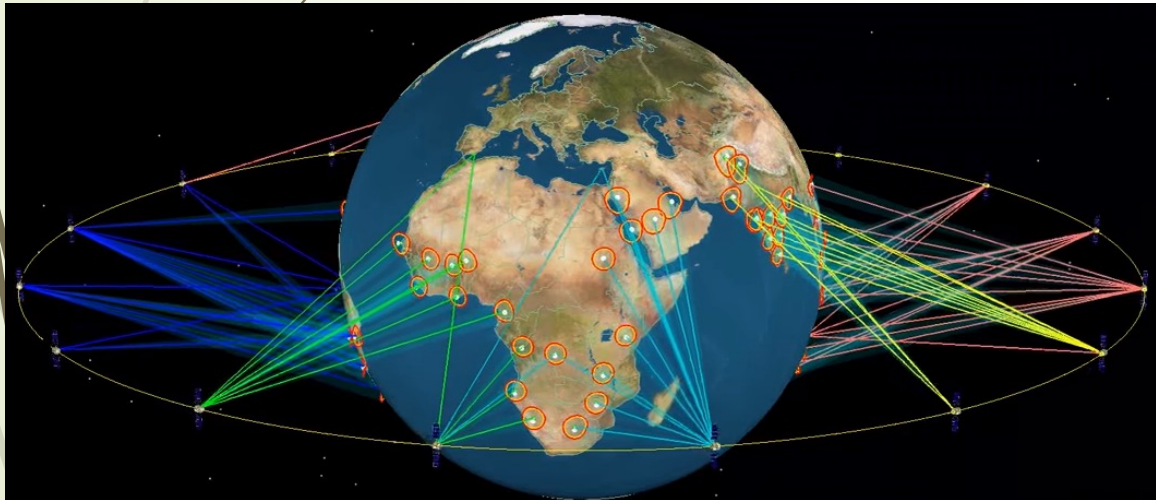
Boeing  
contracted for  
mPOWER

2020

O3b  
mPOWER  
development

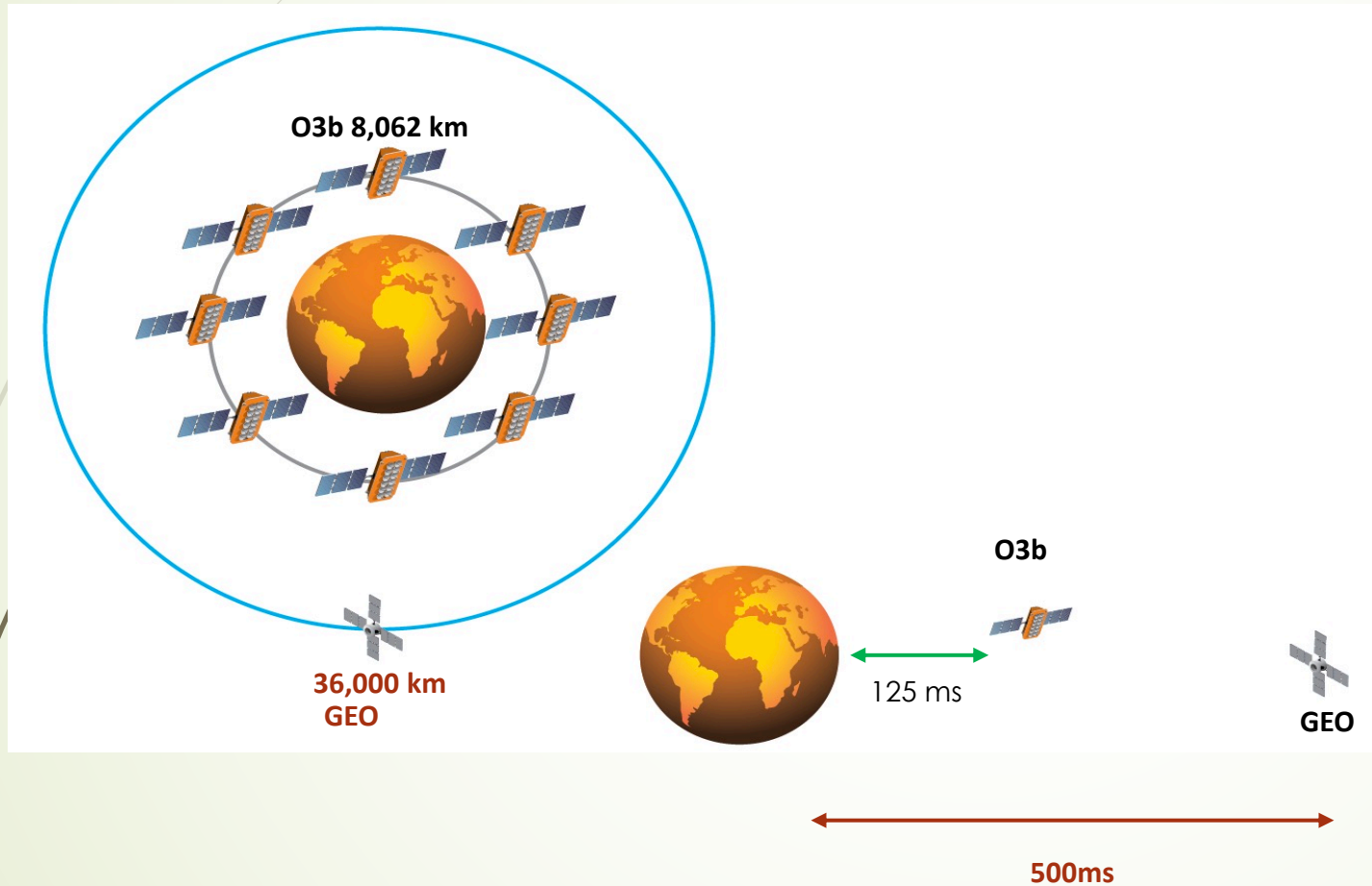
4Q' 2022

O3b  
mPOWER  
start of service



**O3b mPOWER evolution**  
massive scale, performance, & flexibility

# O3b Classic compared to GEO



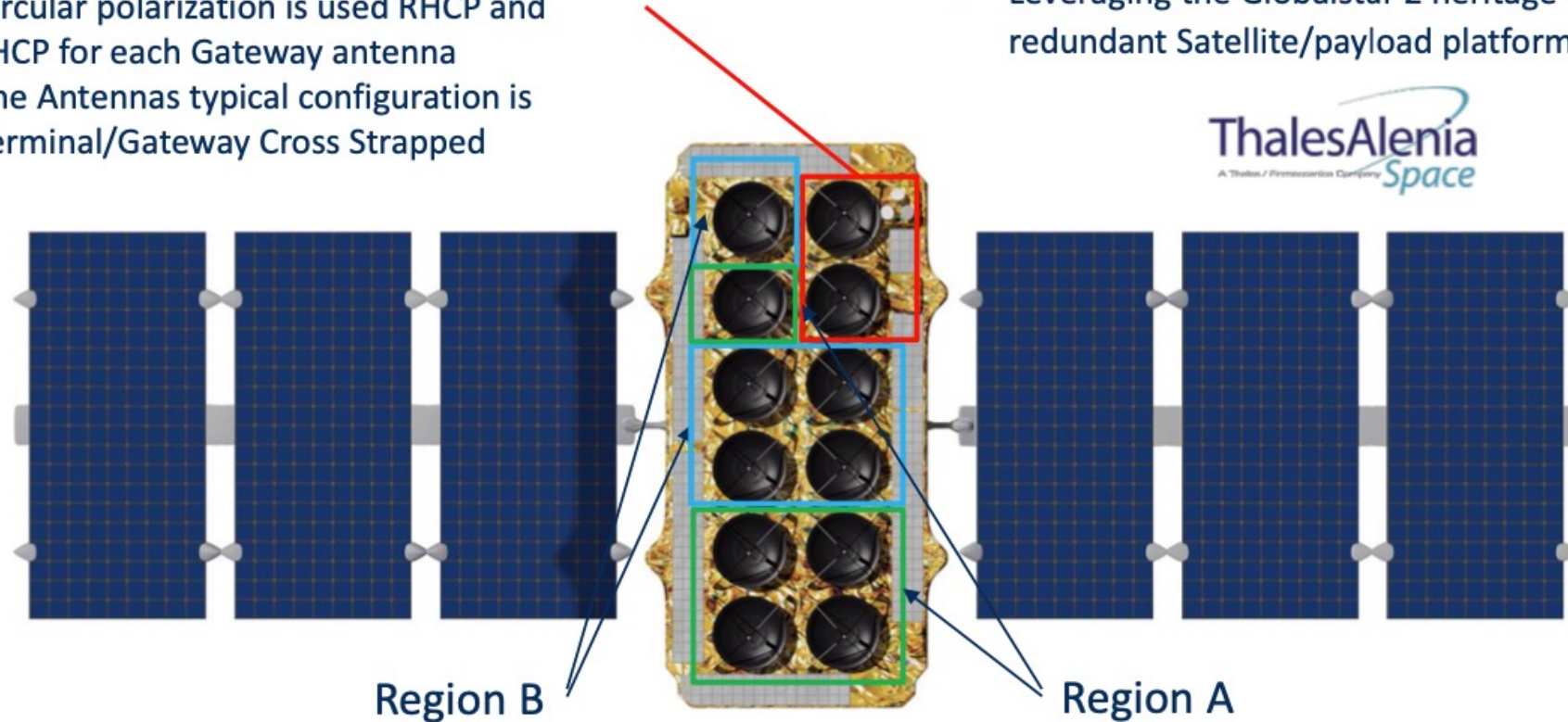
- ▶ A different kind of satellite:
  - ▶ The Medium Earth Orbit reduces delay by 75% compared with GEO – round trip delay less than 125 msecs
  - ▶ O3b's low latency improves the quality of voice and data services
  - ▶ Much lower cost to build and launch compared with GEO
  - ▶ Do not need to apply for orbital slots – can launch tens or hundreds of satellites into the equatorial arc at that altitude
  - ▶ Fully steerable beams are ideal for hot spot applications



# O3b Classic Satellite Architecture

- 2 Gateway Antennas per satellite; one for each region and independently steerable  $\pm 26^\circ$
- Circular polarization is used RHCP and LHCP for each Gateway antenna
- The Antennas typical configuration is Terminal/Gateway Cross Strapped

- The Space Vehicle is designed, integrated and tested, by Thales Alenia Space.
- Leveraging the Globalstar 2 heritage with redundant Satellite/payload platforms.



- 10 independently steerable Customer Beam Antennas which are used to point a customer beam to any location within  $\pm 45^\circ$  latitude.
- 5 beams per Region, 2 regions per satellite. Circular polarization is used RHCP and LHCP for each region
- Each customer beam is configured with a 216 MHz Ka-band transponder in the forward direction
- a 216 MHz Ka-band transponder in the return direction
- Each Satellite has 10 x 65 W Ka Band TWT Amplifiers providing 46dBW EIRP

# The Comsat Connection

## Viasat Comsat Labs Developed MEOLink Modem

- DVB-S2 SCPC and Point to Multipoint
- Symbol Rates From 10 Msps to 180Msps in 1Msps steps
- All Modulations and Codes (QPSK, 8PSK, 16APSK, 32APSK)
- 810Mbps Peak Data Rate Each Direction

## Dual DVB-S2 Receivers

- Make-Before-Break Operation During Satellite Handover
- No Lost or Repeated Packets
- Only single unit required for handover

**ViaSat**





# O3b Classic vs O3b mPower

## O3b Classic (F1~F20)

- Dedicated User and GW Beams, users connect to one of two GWs per region (limited flexibility)
- 10 User Beams (700 km/beam)
- 4-7M km<sup>2</sup> of coverage
- 4.4 GHz total spectrum
- 6 Gbps per Spacecraft (to 1.2m terminals)

### Markets best served:

- Trunk
- Maritime (local)
- Government

User Terminals

GW/NOC

10 to 25x  
Improvement

## mPower:

- Full flexibility: up to 5,000 formed beams per spacecraft >> any antenna to any antenna connectivity
- +/- 26° FOV Phased Array ubiquitous coverage
- Each beam can get up to 2x2.5 GHz of bandwidth – Frequencies can be reused
- Beams share power
- Allocate bandwidth and power to beam as necessary
- 100 million km<sup>2</sup> of coverage per spacecraft
- 100 Gbps per Spacecraft (to 1.2m terminals)

### Markets targeted:

- Trunk
- Maritime (regional)
- Government (ISR, Navy, COTP)
- Aviation (regional)
- Aviation (global)
- Backhaul
- Enterprise
- Energy

In-Country GW

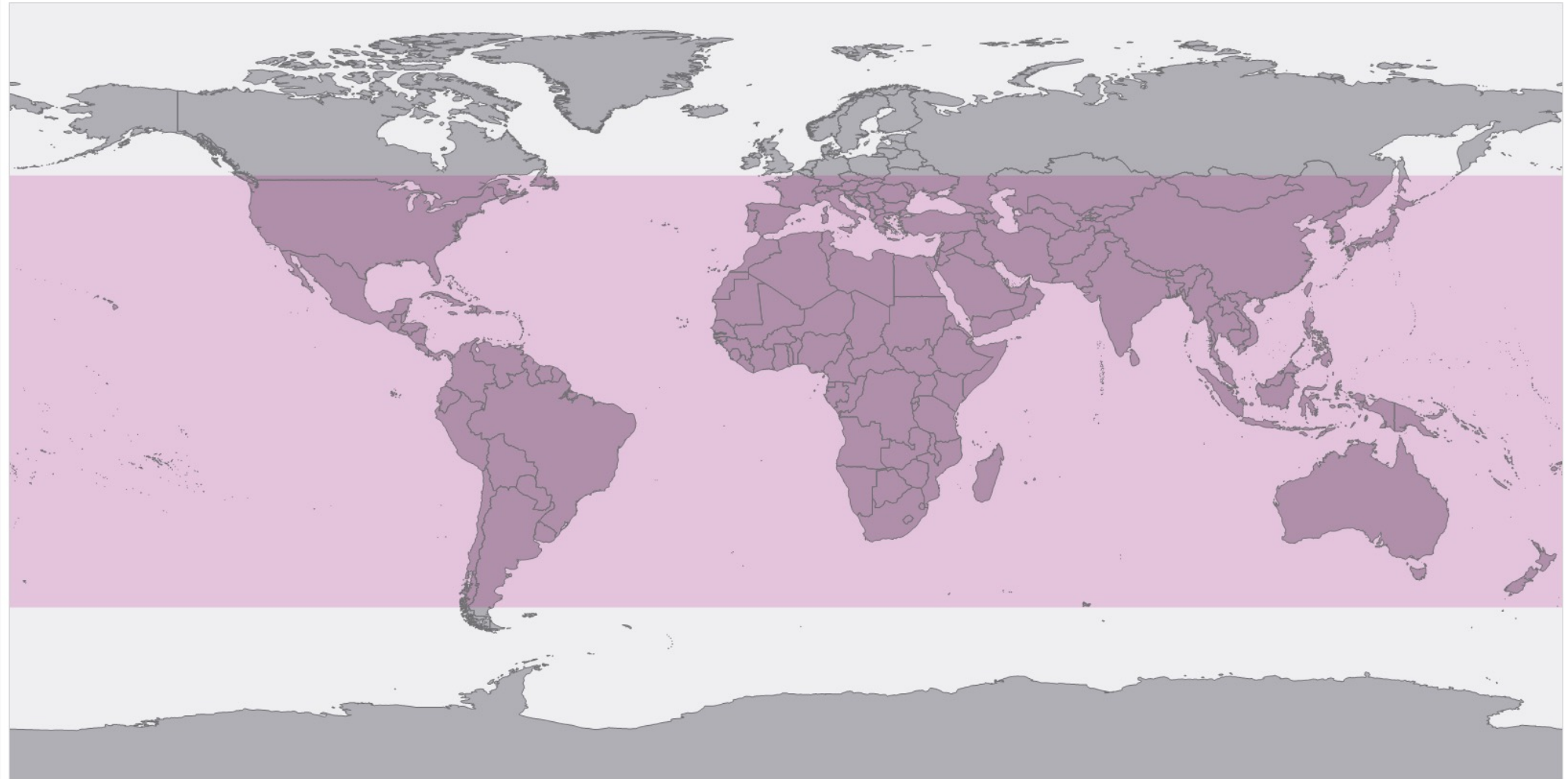
User Terminals

# O3b mPOWER Summary\*

O3b mPOWER	
Mission duration	12 years (planned)
<b>Spacecraft properties</b>	
Spacecraft type	<a href="#">All-electric propulsion</a>
<a href="#">Bus</a>	<a href="#">BSS-702X</a>
Manufacturer	<a href="#">Boeing</a>
Launch mass	1700 kg
<b>Start of mission</b>	
Launch date	Q2 2022
Rocket	<a href="#">Falcon 9</a>
Launch site	<a href="#">Cape Canaveral,</a>
Contractor	<a href="#">SpaceX</a>
<b>Orbital parameters</b>	
Reference system	<a href="#">Geocentric orbit</a>
Regime	<a href="#">Medium Earth orbit</a>
Altitude	8,030 km (5,000 mi)

\* Wikipedia, March 2022

# mPOWER Coverage





# O3b mPOWER Deployment Schedule

## LAUNCH

### SpaceX Falcon 9

O3b mPOWER	1-3	April '22
O3b mPOWER	4-6	May '22
O3b mPOWER	7-9	H2 '22
O3b mPOWER	10-11	H2 '24

