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Press Release

Thuraya Sponsors Space Technology Forum in Abu Dhabi

Abu Dhabi, 6th December 2009: To support the development of the UAE and Middle East as a hub for space related industries, Thuraya Telecommunications Company is actively supporting an international specialised forum on space technology to be held in Abu Dhabi tomorrow 7th December. Held for the second year at Abu Dhabi Exhibition Centre, the Global Space Technology Forum (GSTF 2009) attracts leaders and decision makers in the commercial, military and government sectors from around the Middle East, Africa, Far East and Indian subcontinent.

Thuraya is one of the sponsors of this three-day event which outlines global policy relating to private ventures and future projects in space, new technology and research efforts making space access easy and affordable.

Thuraya's Chief Technology Officer, Mr. Ali Saeed Al Mazrooei will be a keynote speaker at the first panel session where he will highlight Thuraya's perspective on "The need for an organised regional space sector and collaboration." The Company will also be exhibiting its competitive products in the exhibition area.

Thuraya is the world leader in mobile satellite handhelds and has an expanding portfolio of innovative products including advanced satellite broadband, maritime, rural telephony and other tailor-made solutions. Thuraya covers 140 countries in Europe, Africa, Middle East, Asia, and Australia and its products are customised to meet the needs of vertical markets and to serve the modern communication needs in areas uncovered by terrestrial networks. The Company launched three geo-stationary satellites which are the largest commercial telecom satellites in the industry.

Thuraya's Senior Manager Corporate Communications, Mr. Ebrahim K. Ebrahim commented, "Thuraya is among the early satellite ventures in the region and the first satellite telecommunications operator incorporated in the Middle East. We therefore feel committed towards supporting and nurturing all initiatives to advance the space industry in this region."

He also added that ever since the launch of Thuraya in the late 1990s, there has been a heightened regional interest and investment to tap into the potential vast applications and opportunities offered by the satellite telecom technologies.



The Global Space Technology Forum 2009 is comprised of two parts, an exhibition and a seminar that is being held in Abu Dhabi from the 7th to 9th December at the Exhibition Center. It brings together a large audience of national space agencies, space manufacturers, launchers, researchers and academics from all around the world.

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About Thuraya (www.thuraya.com)

Thuraya provides cost-effective mobile satellite services in more than 140 countries in Asia, Africa, Europe, Australia and the Middle East. Services provided by Thuraya include mobile voice that support dual GSM and satellite mode, broadband, maritime, rural telephony, fleet management and other advanced applications that enable people and businesses everywhere under its coverage to enjoy constant access to communications and information. Thuraya enhances sectors such as oil and gas, mining, agriculture, NGOs and maritime services through its cutting edge technology.

The Company launched its third satellite in January 2008, which has brought countries of the Asia-Pacific region under its footprint and extended its coverage to nearly two thirds of the globe's population.

Thuraya was founded in 1997 by a consortium of leading national telecommunications operators and reputed investment firms from the region.

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