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Satellite Frequency Interference Prevention Group Launches Global Uplinker Registry

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Satellite operators and services companies now have a resource to locate and engage uplinkers in any corner of the globe. Their source is the **Global Uplinker Registry** launched this week by the Satellite Users Interference Group (SUIRG).

SUIRG, a non-profit association comprised of both private and public sector satellite organizations, is dedicated to combating the increasing and costly problem of satellite radio frequency interference (RFI). Its new Global Uplinker Registry is a two-way industry resource: the Registry provides regional or local uplinkers with a central means of increasing their visibility and sales prospects on a global scale, while expanding the uplinker supply chain for operators, broadcasters and occasional service providers.

According to SUIRG President **Robert W. Ames, Jr.**, "the goal of the Registry is to compile a listing of satellite uplinker companies that have proven to the industry that they are competent and provide interference-free uplinks, while offering a common global database for use by customers who need to procure satellite uplink services."

Uplinker registration on the SUIRG Global Uplinker Registry is free. Companies can register or search for an uplinker by region and desired frequency or equipment. Over time, in conjunction with SUIRG's interference reduction efforts and Metrics monitoring, registered uplinkers will periodically be reviewed for their level of interference-free operations. If a company is found to be the source of three or more interference incidents without taking corrective action, SUIRG reserves the right to remove the uplinker from its Registry.

According to SUIRG, faulty equipment or minimal technical training, particularly in emerging regions of the globe, are major sources of satellite radio frequency interference. "There are hundreds of uplinkers globally, many operating dozens of trucks or flyaways. Our Global Uplinker Registry will be an asset to our members and other satellite services companies, while providing enhanced visibility and marketing opportunities for uplink service providers regardless of location," Ames said.

Reinforcing SUIRG's Global Uplinker Registry are two leading industry groups, the GVF and the World Teleport Association. According to **David Hartshorn**, **GVF** Secretary General, "we see important synergies between the Registry and GVF's efforts to raise the level of standard operating procedures in uplink installation and operations. This SUIRG program is an important complement to the GVF Certified VSAT Installer Database, which is due to be posted online later this month."

Robert Bell, Executive Director of the **WTA**, praised the Global Uplinker Registry as an important information source for broadcasters, cable-casters and public and private

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network operators. "SUIRG is taking an important step to improve the technical performance of uplinkers, whether they are broadcasters, cable channels, VSAT networks or teleport operators. WTA's members include the quality leaders in the teleport sector, and we are glad to support this new approach to reducing satellite interference."

According to Ames, data derived from SUIRG's new Uplinker Registry will also tie in to the Group's RFI incident tracking, training and related metrics. "We believe this Registry, and the support it receives from related industry organizations, will spotlight the importance of uplink service providers and strengthen the overall reputation of this segment of the satellite industry," he said.