



CONSTRUISONS **ENSEMBLE**  
LA DÉFENSE DE DEMAIN

# COMMUNICATION SATELLITES FOR EUROPEAN DEFENCE AND SECURITY: FRENCH PERSPECTIVES

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25 November 2015, Betzdorf, Luxembourg



# BEST PRACTICES

- **National MilSatCom programmes: a long and renewed/continued experience over four decades**
  - **SEXTIUS**
  - **SYRACUSE I (1984, 1985, 1987)**
  - **SYRACUSE II (1991, 1992, 1995, 1996)**
  - **SYRACUSE III (2005, 2006)**
  - **COMSAT NG**
- **Co-operative MilSatCom and GovSatCom programmes: a more recent experience – though acquired through 2 decades of cooperation**
  - **TRI-MILSATCOM**
  - **NSP2K(2005)**
  - **ATHENA-FIDUS (2014)**
  - **SICRAL 2 (2015)**

# CHALLENGES

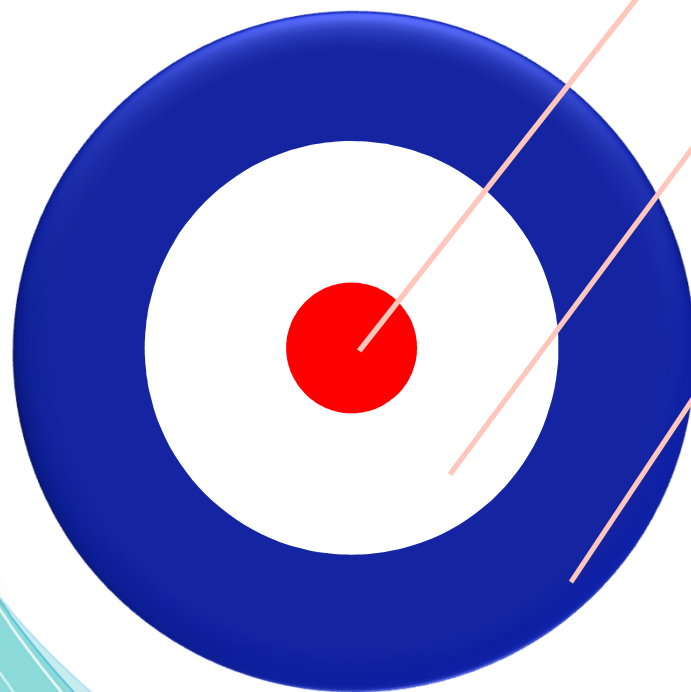
- The principle of co-operation in SatCom is a challenge
- Unsuccessful co-operations:
  - EU-MILSATCOM, IN-MILSAT, BI-MILSATCOM, TRI-MILSATCOM in the 90's : between FR, GE, UK, US
  - More recently: no joint development for the successors of SYRACUSE and SKYNET so far
- Successful co-operations:
  - Pooling of capacities: a consortium of 3 European nations (FR, IT, UK) to meet NATO needs post 2000 (NSP2K)
  - Joint development of capacities: ATHENA-FIDUS and SICRAL 2 between FR and IT



# LESSONS LEARNED

- **Conditions for a successful SatCom national development programme:**
  - **A national Defence Technological and Industrial Base (DTIB)**
    - Innovative and competitive DTIB
  - **A smart procurement**
    - A reassessed acquisition strategy in line with project objectives
  - **In case of capacity renewal : mastering the work schedule**
  - **A strong project owner, responsible for the cost/schedule/performance trade-offs in front of an agreed operational need**
- **In a joint development:**
  - **Consistent national schedules**
  - **A trade-off between national sovereign requirements leading to a shared view on needs**
  - **An industrial structure compatible with respective industry strengths**

# FRENCH SATCOM CAPACITIES



## Sovereign Core

- MILSATCOM: military satellite communication
- Hardened capacity
- Military use
- SYRACUSE and SICRAL 2

## Extended Core

- GOVSATCOM: governmental satellite communication
- Assured access
- Military and Public Authorities use
- ATHENA-FIDUS

## Augmented Core

- COMSATCOM: commercial satcom
- Access upon availability
- Military, Public Authorities, civil customers
- ASTEL and EU satcom market

# OPPORTUNITIES

- **GOVSATCOM initiative in the European framework:**
  - Real opportunity for a European large scale and visible project
  - European systems potentially equivalent to worldwide SATCOM systems : American WGS system, One Web constellation...
  - Additional capacity to the 5 European national MILSATCOM capacities for the benefit of the 28 Member States
- **Promising initiative under conditions:**
  - **Consolidation of the European Defence Technological and Industrial Base (EDTB):**
    - Main fundings for the European industry
    - Funding for innovation and key enabling technologies
    - Prior to any activities: governance in place and mission requirements validated
  - **Programme governance areas under Member States' control:**
    - Industrial Policy
    - Security
    - Finance
  - **Keep MILSATCOM specificities outside the project**

# OPPORTUNITIES

- **Initial pooling of European national GOVSATCOM capacities:**
  - French proposal in PT SATCOM (EDA) to develop
  - A first way to validate the needs
  - Call for candidates

**Thank you for your attention**

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