



United States Navy

Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command
Office of Public Affairs and Corporate Communications
Contact: Steven A. Davis / steven.a.davis@navy.mil
Desk: 619.524.3432

Sept. 1, 2010

PMW 146 Hosts Narrowband Working Group Engages Satellite Communication Stakeholders

SAN DIEGO – The Communications Satellite Program Office (PMW 146) hosted a conference Aug. 17-19 that brought together narrowband satellite communication stakeholders from across the services and the defense industry.

Held twice annually, the latest Narrowband Working Group set a new high for attendance and participation of representatives from all Combatant Commands and the key Defense Department acquisition agencies.

The conference's objective was to create a venue that encourages open exchange of satellite communication information, where all levels of command, services and industry were able to discuss issues and resolve challenges facing the narrowband satellite communications community.

"The Narrowband Working Group is an excellent venue to keep the narrowband community informed of the progress made in the areas of integrated waveform, the Mobile User Objective System (MUOS) and Joint Tactical Radio System (JTRS)", said Maj. Jeff Kacala, PMW 146's Army liaison for MUOS. "It is also critically important for us to get feedback from Combatant Command and service representatives to use in making future decisions regarding our programs."

Key speakers at this event included Lyle Bien, a retired Navy vice admiral and a member of the Naval Postgraduate School Board of Advisors, and Don Brown, Intelsat's vice president.

About Narrowband SATCOM

Also known as the Ultra High Frequency (UHF) spectrum, narrowband is the military's communication workhorse since it penetrates jungle foliage, inclement weather and urban terrain. Nearly 60 percent of satellite communication users are supported via the UHF band. More than 20,000 UHF terminals are currently in military use, many of them designed to be small and portable enough to be carried deep into theaters of operation.

All services and a number of other government organizations use the UHF spectrum. UHF satellite communication users consist of ships at sea, aircraft and a variety of other U.S. military fixed and mobile terminals used by mobile warfighters.

- MORE -

The August session included discussions at the classified and unclassified level on current user needs, employment concepts of operation and program office updates on legacy UHF satellite communications, MUOS and JTRS.

The working group is the primary action officer-level forum for the extended narrowband community. U.S. Strategic Command and Army Strategic Command co-lead this semi-annual working group. The next Narrowband Working Group is tentatively planned for February 2011.

**About SPAWAR / www.spawar.navy.mil
www.facebook.com/spaceandnavalwarfaresystemscommand
<http://twitter.com/SPAWARHQ>**

The Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command (SPAWAR) designs, develops and deploys advanced communications and information capabilities. SPAWAR delivers solutions that give Navy, joint and coalition forces the winning edge, from strategic-level decision makers to tactical-level operators. With more than 12,000 professionals located around the world and close to the fleet, Team SPAWAR is at the forefront of research, engineering, acquisition and support services that provide vital decision superiority to our forces at the right time and for the right cost.