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WORLD SPACE WEEK 2014 “SPACE: GUIDING YOUR WAY”

2014 World Space Week celebrates the crucial role of satellite communications and navigation systems

In 1999, the UN General Assembly declared 4 to 10 October World Space Week (WSW) to celebrate each year at the international level the contributions of space science and technology to the betterment of the human condition. Since then, the annual celebration of space science and technology has grown into a large public event.

The dates were chosen to commemorate two milestones in space:

- **4 October** 1957 – launch of the first Earth satellite, Sputnik 1, which paved the way for space exploration; and
- **10 October** 1967 – signing of the Treaty of Principles Governing the Activities of States in Exploration and Peaceful Uses for Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies.

More than 1,400 events in 80 countries celebrated the benefits of space exploration in 2013. The new satellite navigation theme “Space: Guiding Your Way” chosen for 2014 aims to inspire even more events around the world in October 2014 extending global awareness of the role that space-enabled navigation technology and satellite communications plays in our lives.

World Space Week brings together space agencies and organisations with schools, planetaria, museums and astronomy clubs for a wealth of educational and outreach activities.

Satellites are the only infrastructure that can provide connectivity for vessels, planes, vehicles and even people in the remotest places on Earth or in cases of natural disasters or humanitarian emergency, meaning that they can share their location with colleagues, families and friends to help ensure their safe passage or provide assistance, along with all their voice and data requirements.



This year marks the 15th anniversary of the World Space Week and an all new website has been launched at <http://www.worldspaceweek.org/>

A total of 614 events have been registered so far for WSW2014.

IMSO shares the relevance of the 2014 WSW theme and joins other satellite organizations and industry to highlight the crucial role of satellite communications and navigation systems to enhance maritime safety and security, as well as the welfare of people at sea.