

## NEWS RELEASE

### Robert Berry, Conny Kullman and Mary Ann Elliott Among Six Industry Leaders to be Inducted into the SSPI's Satellite Hall of Fame on February 20

**New York City** (January 15, 2007) – The Society of Satellite Professionals International ([www.sspi.org](http://www.sspi.org)), the professional development society of the global satellite industry, will induct six new members into its Satellite Hall of Fame at an invitational ceremony on February 20, 2007 sponsored by Booz Allen Hamilton. According to SSPI Chairman David Bross, the Awards were introduced in 1987 to recognize the valuable contributions of the visionaries and pioneers who have made possible the age of satellite communications — individuals who have devoted their careers to the advancement of technology and to helping build the political and commercial foundations of the industry.

Among the more than 40 members of the Hall of Fame are such luminaries as Sir Arthur C. Clarke, James Van Allen, William Pickering, Harold Rosen, John Pierce, Sidney Topol, Rene Anselmo, Eddie Hartenstein, John Puente, Santiago Astrain, Olof Lundberg, Koji Kobayashi, Andrea Caruso, and Noah Samara. At the February 20 ceremony, the following industry leaders will join them:

- **Robert Berry**, Chairman of Space Systems/Loral, for leadership in providing three generations of satellites to Intelsat, the US Department of Defense and other customers and introducing key direct broadcast, mobile and other satellite technologies.
- **Laurier Boisvert**, President and CEO (retired) of Telesat Canada, for the transformation of Telesat Canada from an unprofitable national service provider into a vibrant international competitor in satellite services and pioneer in commercializing the Ka frequency band.
- **Mary Ann Elliott**, Chairman and CEO of Arrowhead Global Communications, for entrepreneurship in the founding of Arrowhead Global and its growth into a major provider of end-to-end communications solutions to the U.S. Federal government.
- **Dr. Yasuo Hirata**, Chairman of KDDI R&D Laboratories, for major contributions to the development of digital mobile satellite communications systems and technologies, including the INMARSAT Standard-B system and “punctured” forward error correction techniques.
- **Conny Kullman**, Chairman (retired) of Intelsat, for leadership of INTELSAT through its transformation from an intergovernmental organization into a privately-held operator of terrestrial networks and the world's largest commercial satellite fleet.
- **Dr. Delbert Smith**, Senior Telecommunications Council, Jones Day, for his instrumental role in the recovery of the Palapa B2 and Westar VI satellites, which greatly strengthened the satellite insurance industry, and for originating the first satellite communications publication and conference.

### Ceremony at Gala 2007

The Hall of Fame ceremony will take place from 6:30 to 7:15 pm at the Grand Hyatt Washington, immediately before the start of the annual SSPI Gala. Each year, the black-tie Gala brings nearly 1,300 decision-makers from the satellite industry to the Grand Hyatt in Washington, DC on the opening day of the SATELLITE conference and exhibition, produced by Access Intelligence. To request an invitation, contact Tamara Bond, Membership Director,

SSPI at +1 212-809-5199 ext 16 or by email at [tbond@sspi.org](mailto:tbond@sspi.org).

Hall of Fame members are selected by a committee of industry leaders, chaired by Dr. Joseph Pelton, Director of the Space & Advanced Communications Research Institute at George Washington University. Dr. Pelton was named to the Hall of Fame in 2001.

### **About SSPI**

Founded by a small group of visionaries in 1983, the Society of Satellite Professionals International ([www.sspi.org](http://www.sspi.org)) continues to fulfill the mission of its founders as a nonprofit society that serves satellite professionals throughout their careers. The programs of the Society promote the development of and access to high-quality education, help satellite professionals to advance their careers, work to increase the professionalism and professional standing of members and honor extraordinary achievement by individuals and organizations.

### **About Booz Allen Hamilton**

Booz Allen Hamilton ([www.boozallen.com](http://www.boozallen.com)), a leading global consulting firm, has more than 18,000 employees serving clients on six continents. Integrating the full range of consulting capabilities, Booz Allen is the one firm that helps government and commercial clients solve their toughest problems with services in strategy, operations, organization and change, and information technology.

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