



Mega-Constellations: Opportunities and Challenges

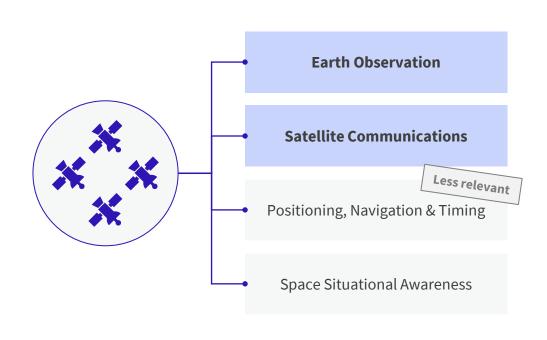
Alexander Jeuck, Senior Advisor India Space Congress 2024

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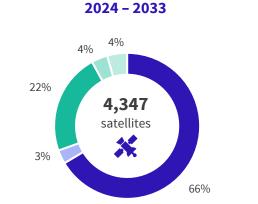
Constellations are typical for the larger satellite markets of EO & satcom – however, EO is not expected to see "megaconstellations" in the near future

Relevant markets for constellations

Number of EO satellite launches







^{*}Established, developing and no-industry categories are part of the government typology, Source: Novaspace EO Satellite Systems report, 17th edition

Payload diversification is next priority for Earth Observation



For satcom, market growth will be relevant for satcom megaconstellations



Revenue **declining** factors:

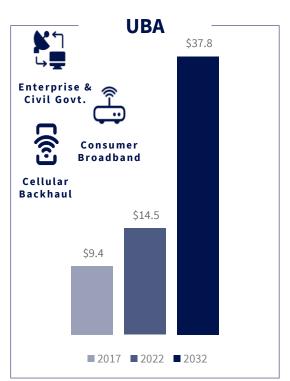
- Surge in OTT
- Change in viewing habits
- COVID-19 impact on mobility

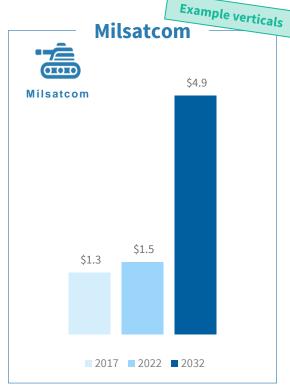
Revenue **growth** drivers:

- Connecting the unconnected
- Increased govt. spending
- Mobility: more connected terminals & new largely untapped land segment

Key takeaways

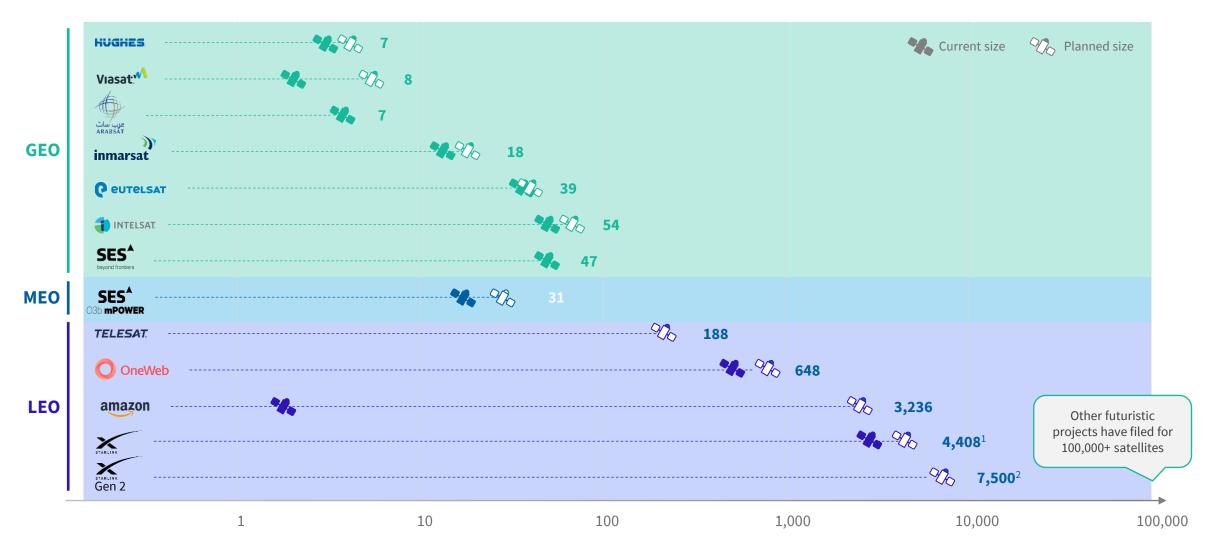
- While video markets have resulted in overall decline of satcom markets, return to growth is occurring from 2023, generating \$122.9B USD by 2032
- Satcom megaconstellations will drive availability & demand





OTT – over-the-top media services; UBA – Universal Broadband Access

Larger satcom (mega-) constellations are emerging particularly in LEO



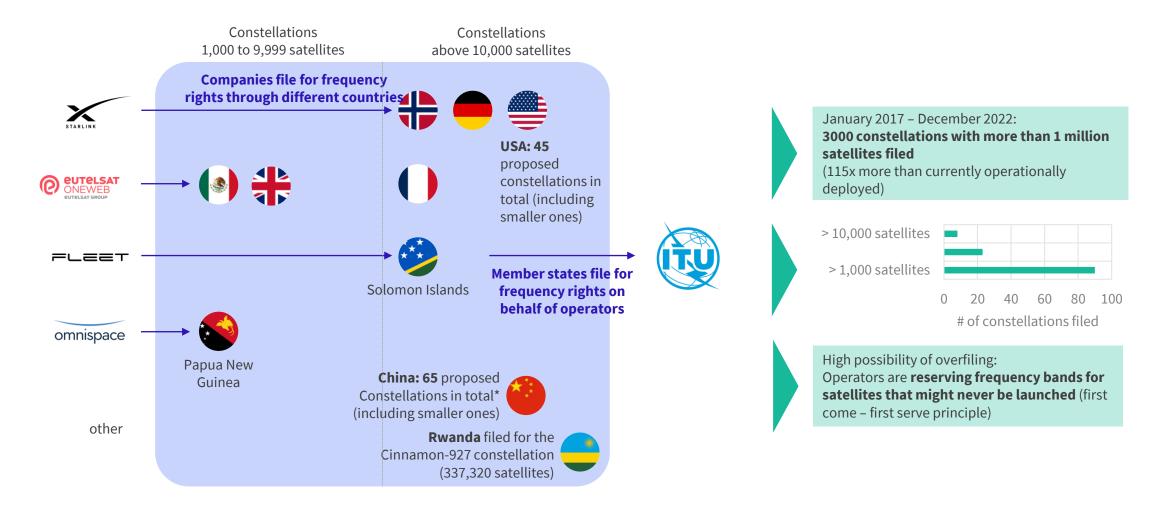
Notes: 1. Estimated constellation size for Gen 1 (while official numbers claim 12,000 LEO satellites in phase 1); 2. Hybrid constellation of Gen 1 and Gen 2 satellites expected, with gradual increase of Gen 2 and incremental decommissioning of Gen 1. Originally requested approval for 30k Gen 2 satellites; Source: Company websites, Novaspace Analysis

Leading NGSO-HTS satcom constellations differ strongly in their approach & relevant capabilities

Leading (mega-) constellations

| | TELESAT | SES ^A O3b mPOWER | STARLINK | EUTELSAT ONEWEB eutelsat group | amazon |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|---|---|
| Planned Constellation Size | 198 satellites (0% launched) | 11 satellites (36% launched) | 4,408 Gen1 satellites (>91% launched) | 648 Gen1 satellites (100% launched) | 3,236 satellites (0% launched) |
| | | | 7,500 Gen2 satellites (9% launched) | 360 Gen2 satellites (0 launched) | |
| Total Capacity | ~10 Tbps (50 Gbps per sat.) | ~2.7 Tbps (200-315 Gbps/sat.) | Gen1: ~88 Tbps Gen2: ~750 Tbps | Gen1: ~5 Tbps Gen2: ~22 Tbps | ~164 Tbps (50 Gbps/sat.) |
| Usable Capacity (est.) | ~5 Tbps | ~1.9 Tbps | Gen1: ~22 Tbps Gen2: ~187 Tbps | Gen1: ~1.2 Tbps Gen2: ~5.4 Tbps | ~40 Tbps |
| Frequency (user) | Ka-band | Ka-band | Ku-band | Ku-band | Ka-band |
| Orbit | LEO (1,000-1,350 km) | MEO (8,062 km) | LEO (550 km) | LEO (~1,200 km) | LEO (~600 km) |
| Satellite Mass | ~750 kg | ~1,700 kg | ~290 kg | ~150 kg | ~650 kg |
| Satellite Life | ~11 years | >10 years | ~5 years | ~5 years | 5 to 7 years |
| Latency | < 50 ms | ~150 ms | < 50 ms | < 50 ms | < 50 ms |
| Payload flexibility | Beam-hopping, optical ISLs, OBP | Dynamic beam-forming, steering, sizing | Steerable beams, ISLs (as of Q3 2021) | None | Beams: flexible shape, steering, capacity |
| Funding | Fully funded (internal and external) | Fully funded (internal) | \$10.1b raised since 2015 | \$3.4b pre-bankruptcy, \$2.7b post- | Likely internal (from cashflows) |
| Service start | Late 2027 | Q4 2023 | 2021 (partial) Q4 2022 (global) | 2022 (polar) Q4 2023 (global) | Likely >2026 |

Filings show >1 Mn satellites planned – but how many constellations will actually come to fruition?



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