



SES BUILDS SATELLITE FACTORY

SES has started construction of a 16,000-square-metre satellite manufacturing facility in Kockelscheuer, Luxembourg, with operations expected to begin in 2028.



The facility will bring together engineering, manufacturing and testing capabilities, along with satellite assembly and integration. It will support the development of SES's next-generation medium Earth orbit (MEO) network, meoSphere, which builds on the company's O3b mPOWER programme.

The site will also contribute to Europe's IRIS² secure connectivity programme through payload development and satellite assembly, integration and testing.

SES said the investment is part of a broader move towards vertical integration, giving the satellite operator greater control over satellite development while helping shorten production and development cycles.

The new facility builds on a pilot manufacturing line and R&D facility already established by SES and will

become part of Luxembourg's developing Space Campus.

The campus is intended to bring together engineering, testing and manufacturing activities while encouraging collaboration among companies operating in the space sector.

The development comes as SES reshapes its operations following its acquisition of Intelsat and increases its focus on integrated multi-orbit satellite networks.

ORANGE BELGIUM EXTENDS VO DEAL

Orange Belgium has extended its agreement with Viaccess-Orca (VO), continuing a relationship that dates back to 2014.

Under the renewed agreement, Orange Belgium will continue using VO's Secure Video Player, Multi-DRM, Quality of Experience (QoX) monitoring and Conditional Access System (CAS) across multiple television environments.



The technology is deployed across both residential and business television services. Orange Belgium also uses VO's conditional-access technology for B2B television deployments, including services provided in hotels and hospitals.

VO's security and playback technologies are designed to protect content while supporting the delivery of television services across different environments.

The agreement also covers VO's QoX technology, which provides device-level monitoring of the viewing experience.

Philippe Toussaint, CTO at Orange Belgium, said the operator values VO's understanding of its varied television requirements and the reliability of its solutions.

PLUTO TV SECURES FIVE-YEAR PROTECTION

Paramount Skydance will be required to continue operating Pluto TV, or an equivalent free ad-supported streaming television service, for five years under a settlement reached with 12 US state attorneys general.



The provision provides continuity for the FAST platform as Paramount Skydance moves towards completing its proposed acquisition of Warner Bros Discovery.

The settlement also sets conditions for negotiations involving the companies' basic cable networks. Paramount and Warner Bros Discovery will be required to negotiate carriage arrangements for their respective network portfolios at arm's length.

Another provision establishes a News Editorial Independence Board covering CBS News and CNN, bringing the two major news operations under an additional governance mechanism following the proposed combination.

The settlement represents another step towards completion of the Warner Bros Discovery transaction. Paramount CEO David Ellison has indicated that the company expects the deal to close in approximately two weeks. ■