Viasat Pulls in NASA Contract
Deal May Lead to Further Work With the Space Agency

According to NASA, Viasat’s proposed approach demonstrates a commercial radio frequency geostationary orbiting relay network for high- and low-rate communications services to spacecraft in low-Earth orbit for routine launch and missions. Viasat operates in the Ka-band of radio frequencies (similar to a TV channel) and has ground stations on five continents: North America, South America, Europe, Australasia and Africa. Viasat said it is developing a space-qualified terminal to give LEO operators access to the ViaSat-3 network for data transfer.

NASA announced five other contract winners. A $28.6 million contract will go to Inmarsat Government Inc. of Reston, Virginia. Inmarsat operates in the L-band. Its parent company, U.K.-based Inmarsat, has agreed to become part of Viasat.

Other contracts went to Kuiper Government Solutions LLC, SES Government Solutions, SpaceX and Telesat U.S. Services LLC.

A Military Tribute With the Padres
In other company news, Viasat and the San Diego Padres unveiled a military tribute, the Viasat Military Hall of Honor, at Petco Park last month (April 24).

The wall is in the Power Alley located in the right field concourse, near section 133. There fans can view information and different content on former Padres and other Major League Baseball players who served in the military through two touchscreen televisions. Fans will also be able to record and send personalized messages to active-duty military members and various military bases in a dedicated recording booth located within the area.

Craig Miller, president of Viasat’s Government Systems business, said the exhibit is “an effort symbolic of both Viasat’s and the Padres’ belief in recognizing military service and supporting the veteran community here in San Diego... and beyond.”

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