

# Ligado Update

AFC June 2016 Meeting



## Scope



- Current status
- FCC public notice and aviation filings
- Future work



#### **Ligado Today**





- Entered bankruptcy in 2012 with over \$1.7bn in debts
- Recused by additional investors in 2015
- Has rebranded as 'Ligado Networks'
- Over \$1bn in new financing for lobbying and engineering
- Sued GPS manufacturers and FCC over its GPS issues
  - Garmin, Deere, and Trimble settled in 2015
  - Dropped action against FCC
- Proposing 'new' arrangement in 2016
  - New approach to GPS industry
  - Similar spectrum plan as before (minor tweaks)
  - Proposing FAA make decision on compatible levels for certified aviation receivers
  - Conducting own testing of non-certified GPS devices outside of DoT plan
  - Pushing heavily for use of NOAA band



#### **FCC Public Notice**

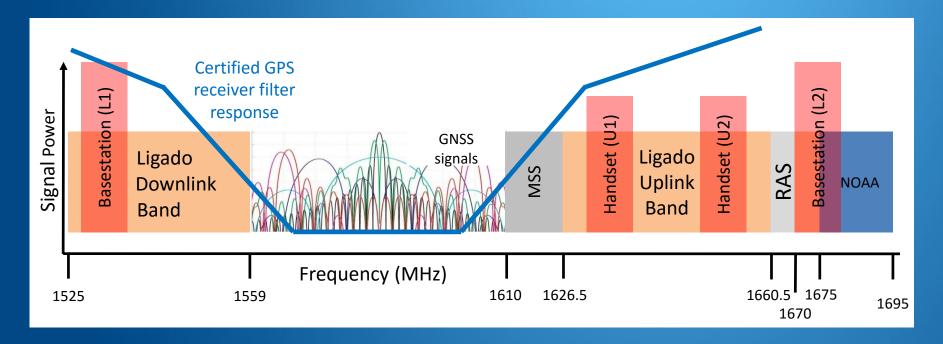


- FCC issued two Public Notices on the 22 April 2016
  - Consideration of Ligado's GPS proposals for a waiver
  - Possible licensing of the NOAA weather band
- From ASRI's assessment of current information available, aviation potentially affected in four areas
  - Certified receivers
  - Non-certified receivers
  - AMS(R)S SATCOM
  - NOAA weather satellite interference



### Spectrum Picture







### Joint Aviation Filing



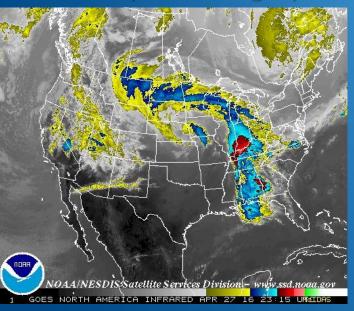
- ASRI and 11 other signatories filed against the Ligado GPS proposals with the FCC on the 23 May 2016
  - Noted that proposal was premature
  - Too many outstanding issues
- Certified receivers
  - Uncertain about how FAA may protect GPS devices
  - Risk of FCC modification/interpretation of FAA limitations
    - Same position as 2012
  - FAA conditions must be applicable to all Ligado emissions
- Non-certified receivers
  - Difficult to quantify impact on aviation
  - Ligado testing using own standards
    - Ignoring GPS industry supported testing by DoT
  - Must wait for DoT test plan to be completed



#### **NOAA** Weather Satellites



- Ligado's spectrum move impacts the NOAA datalinks
  - Weather balloons reporting links
  - Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellites (GOES)
- GOES system imagery is the primary source of:



- NWS Aviation Weather Center (AIRMET, SIGMET & PROG Charts)
- NWS Volcanic ash advisories
- NWS Hurricane Center advisories
- NWS Storm Prediction Center advisories
- Polar route radiation warning system
- Flood and storm surge warnings advisories
- Cloud-to-cloud and cloud-to-ground lightning data
- Only Ligado has conducted any technical analysis
  - Flaws in the analysis
    - Parameters used
    - Missing NOAA sites



#### **Joint Aviation Filing**



#### SATCOM

- Conflicting information about effect on Inmarsat systems
- Iridium has not been studied yet
- Ligado has referred back to SATCOM operators
- Additional comments files by:
  - A4A
  - AIA
  - Boeing
  - Garmin
  - Trimble



#### **Looking Forward**



- Public notice timelines
  - GPS comments period due to finish 6 and 16 June 2016
  - NOAA satellite initial comments due by 23 June
    - Will seek signatories in the same process as before
    - Possible webex briefing for those AFC members who are interested in more details
- FCC unlikely to rule on anything soon given current opposition
  - Will probably wait to see full outcome of comments and early DoT results
- ASRI will update the AFC as the issue develops
  - Additional support will be required

