



**Sintelsat's CEO participated & supported the recently held Industry Briefing on the Proposed Reconstruction Opportunity Zones (ROZs) for Afghanistan and Pakistan**

**Washington, D.C., March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2007**- Sintel Satellite Services' President/ CEO, Mr. Sanjay Singhal, participated and supported the recently held Industry Briefing on the Reconstruction Opportunity Zones (ROZs) for Afghanistan and Pakistan proposed by the U.S. Administration to Congress. Along with Mr. Singhal, the ROZs briefing was attended by Mr. Reginald Smith (retired- US Dept. of State) and Mr. Paul Rodriguez, Managing Director, Burson-Marsteller. Over sixty representatives of major U.S. corporations, development organizations, and government agencies attended the event to learn about ROZs.

ROZ program addresses the issue of lack of economic development and jobs that has led to these areas becoming a breeding ground for insurgents, terrorists, and drug production. Thus, they present a way to create zones of economic opportunity to replace zones of instability. The program would provide duty-free access into the U.S. market for certain goods produced in approved areas and create significant employment opportunities. A similar program has helped to create thousands of jobs and significantly increased exports from Jordan.

This is the first event about ROZs in this year 2007 provided by the U.S. Administration addressing to the private sector interested in doing business in Afghanistan. Senior-level officials of the State Department- Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Trade Policy and Programs Chris Moore and Deputy United States Trade Representative for South Asia Claudio Lilienfeld lead the event through an informational presentation on the ROZs program proposed by President Bush's Administration to Congress. The officials said that the U.S. Administration recognizes ROZs as part of the overall economic development efforts of the government for Afghanistan and border areas of Pakistan. They explained that the U.S. government is looking for other programs such as employment skills, trade facilitation and infrastructure to complement the ROZ initiative.

After the presentation, H.E. Said Tayeb Jawad, Afghanistan's Ambassador to the United States, shared the perspective of the Afghanistan's Government stating that ROZs will provide for regional cooperation and global security. Mr. Singhal along with company executives and AACC officials met with H.E. Ambassador Said T. Jawad and many dignitaries from the Embassy and exchanged views on current development in Afghanistan.

The Afghan-American Chamber of Commerce (AACC) and the Embassy of Afghanistan co-sponsored this event. The AACC is the leading organization facilitating U.S.-Afghan business, investment, and trade ties. AACC serves the interests of its members through numerous programs, advocates for a free and open market economy in Afghanistan, and endeavors to strengthen U.S.-Afghan economic relations. Sintelsat has been an active member of the Afghan-American Chamber of Commerce (AACC) and participates in various U.S. programs in rebuilding nations particularly Iraq and Afghanistan.

## **About Sintel Satellite Services**

Sintel Satellite Services, Inc. is a global communications company based in Stony Brook, Long Island, New York providing turnkey solutions & networks using Satellite Communication, Fiber, Microwave Systems and Wi-Fi/ Wi-MAX Wireless Technologies. SintelSat currently serves corporate, Federal, State & local governments, Embassies, United Nation, World Bank and many international organizations in infrastructure rebuilding, IP connectivity, private networks, VoIP, Data and Video solutions in emerging markets. SintelSat has extensive satcom, networking, technical support and NOC capabilities in Afghanistan, Iraq, Lebanon, India & Philippines. Field support personnel are available in many continents including Africa, Middle East, Asia and Europe. For more information, please contact us at (+1) 631-791-9052 / (+1) 212-202-0678 or email us at [info@sintelsat.com](mailto:info@sintelsat.com).