5 June 2011

The Honorable Julius Genachowski
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554
United States of America

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On behalf of the 230 member airlines of the International Air Transport Association (IATA), I am writing to express our strong opposition to the waiver of the "integrated service" rule granted to LightSquared Subsidiary LLC (LightSquared) for its Mobile Satellite Service license in the L Band.

Specifically, we are concerned that interference from the proposed LightSquared system will impact Global Positioning System (GPS) frequencies, which are used by airline operations around the world for critical navigation, communication, and surveillance services that are essential for aviation safety.

We are particularly alarmed that interference to GPS signals will directly impact the U.S. Next Generation Air Transportation System (NextGen), an air traffic modernization effort strongly endorsed by the Obama Administration, which uses the GPS as the basis of its technology.

IATA is a strong proponent of NextGen and endorses its implementation to improve safety, increase efficiency, and reduce aviation’s environmental footprint. We urge the Commission to take all necessary steps to ensure that GPS service provision is not compromised in any way by the LightSquared system.

Sincerely,

Giovanni Bisignani
Director General & CEO

International Air Transport Association
800 Place Victoria, B.P. 113
Montréal, Québec
Canada H4Z 1M1
Tel: +1 514 874 0202
Fax: +1 514 874 2657
ista.dg.ceo@iata.org

Route de l'Aéroport 33, P.O. Box 416
1215 Geneva 15 Airpor
Switzerland
Tel: +41 0 22 770 2900
Fax: +41 0 22 770 2680
ista.dg.ceo@iata.org