



Editor - Amy Saunders ●●●

Endless possibilities

We're here at the start of a whole new year! I hope everyone had a refreshing break and is as ready to dive back into it all as we are at Satellite Evolution Group.

2018 brings with it endless possibilities if you're inclined to optimism, or potentially the most turbulent year yet if you're not; there are a lot of dangerous people out there with questionable ideas that could come into play this year.

It's looking like a busy year as always. The conference and exhibition season starts early this year with CABSAT in Dubai; many of us will already have returned before this issue goes to print, having built new business relationships and opportunities. Satellite 2018 is sure to make a mark on most of our calendars this year, bringing together individuals in one of the world's most satellite-centric cities. CommunicAsia, my favourite event of the year for both the quality of the show itself and the location, has been moved from May to the end of June; personally, I can't wait for this one. IBC, meanwhile, seems a lifetime away in its usual September spot, but I know that I'll blink, and we'll be back there again.

When it comes to industry news, I'm looking forward to hearing the latest on 5G and spectrum sharing; Intelsat certainly shook the sector with its announcement at the end of last year with Intel, but some people think spectrum sharing is the right way to go. Meanwhile, we're edging closer to the realisation of the upcoming LEO constellations, so we can expect a lot of debate about debris, particularly since current de-orbit rates of LEO satellites above 700km are at a dismal 10-20 percent. Space tourism, too, is becoming closer to reality, as Blue Origin forges ahead with its New Glenn reusable rocket and its new factory at the Kennedy Space Center, while SpaceX makes waves with its new Falcon Heavy launch vehicle and advances plans to send two people to orbit the moon this year.

It's vital with everything that's going on that we all stay up to date on the latest information. I encourage all our readers to regularly check out our news pages, LinkedIn Group and Twitter feed to keep up to date with what's going on, and then join in the discussion. As some of us will have witnessed at the IRG's Annual Workshop in October, healthy debate is of the utmost importance in keeping the ideas flowing for new solutions to be brought to bear.

Satellite Evolution Group wishes a Happy New Year to all our readers – we hope to be hearing from you soon! 🌟



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