

## Thaicom Net Profit Grows 21% to 399 million Baht

*Prepares to launch Thaicom 7 and 8 to support Thai TV industry and international markets*

*Nonthaburi, 9 May, 2014:* Thailand's satellite operator, **Thaicom Public Company Limited ("THCOM")**, today announced its operating results for the first quarter of 2014, posting a net profit of 399 million Baht on consolidated revenues from the sale of goods and rendering of services of 2.37 billion Baht. The year-on-year growth in profits of 21% was mainly due to improved performance in its foreign markets and the added growth realized by its newly-launched Thaicom 6 satellite. Fully 88% of the Company's revenues were delivered by its core satellite operations.

**Suphajee Suthumpun, Thaicom's Chairman of the Executive Committee and CEO**, said, "The Company had an increase in profits from operations in the first quarter due to revenue recognition from Thaicom 6 satellite launched in early January, and an increase in revenues from IPSTAR services in Australia and Japan."

Capacity on the Company's Thaicom 6 satellite has been sold out for its Thailand beam, while additional sales in Africa have pushed utilization of the satellite to 68% within three months of launch. The Company has also started providing uplink services for the new digital terrestrial television (DTT) stations in keeping with the National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission's (NBTC) 'Must Carry' rule, which will allow existing satellite TV viewers to enjoy the added DTT channels immediately. In moves to meet the growing demand for more satellite transponder capacity, the Company will launch its Thaicom 7 satellite in the middle of this year, while plans are well underway for the construction of its Thaicom 8 satellite, which is scheduled for launch in the first half of 2016. In its broadband business, IPSTAR continues to deliver improved revenues from overseas operations, particularly in Australia and Japan.

"With our expanded fleet consisting of Thaicom 6, 7, and 8, the Company will be able to meet the long-term growth needs for added satellite capacity in our markets across Asia and Africa. We will be able to support the growth of the broadcasting industry while it transitions from standard definition to high definition, and ultimately, to ultra-high definition broadcasting. At the same time, we are also focusing on the development of integrated technology innovations, and the delivery of End-to-End solutions and Value-Added Services to our customers," **Suphajee** said.

In the second quarter of 2014 the Company partnered with MCOT Plc in launching a new application called "MCONNECT" (MCOT Second Screen Application), which will create a new television viewing experience. Through the application, the audience can interact with the

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producers of television programs and obtain more information about the program they are watching, or chat live with friends while watching a particular program. The application will also track viewers and provide program viewership ratings.

In other areas of the Company's operations, its internet and media subsidiary CS Loxinfo Plc ("CSL") continued to show solid performance, with the majority of its revenues derived from the provision of corporate internet access through leased lines, Internet Data Center services, and other ICT-related services. LTC, the Company's telephone operations in the Lao PDR also continued to show steady performance, retaining its market-leadership position through the provision of mobile and data connectivity across its superior, nation-wide network.

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#### **About Thaicom**

Thaicom Public Company Limited, a leading Asian satellite operator, was established in 1991 with unique proposition in providing integrated solutions for satellite broadcast and broadband. The Company houses high profiled engineering teams to provide leading-edge innovative solutions on telecommunication and satellite that answer every need with a full spectrum of services. Until now, Thaicom has launched six satellites into the orbit; three satellites are in operations. Thaicom 5 and Thaicom 6 are a "Hot Bird" broadcasting satellite for Thailand and SE Asia, boarding more than 600 TV channels, coverage over Thailand, SE Asia and Africa (by the name "Africom-1"). Thaicom 4 (IPSTAR) is the world's first broadband satellite and is providing broadband services to 14 countries across Asia-Pacific region. With the unique performance and technology of Thaicom 4, the Company has provided its solutions to many countries in the region to enable the broadband connectivity everywhere, also to recover communication networks at the time of disasters.

In 2014, THAICOM 7 will be launched in addition to existing satellite while THAICOM 8 has been under the production process which will finally also be launched to the "Hot Bird", 78.5 degrees EAST around the first half of 2016. The new bird will increase more transponders that serve the countries in Asia and Africa.

Thaicom PLC is listed on the Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET) under the trade symbol "THCOM".

#### **About THAICOM 7**

THAICOM 7 is now under construction by Orbital Sciences Corporation of U.S.A. There are 14 C-Band transponders in total, covering South Asia, Southeast Asia, Australia and New Zealand. THAICOM 7 will be launched into the 120 degrees East around mid-2014 conveyed by Space Exploration Technologies Corporation (SPACE X)'s Falcon 9 of USA. This will create the economic opportunity of Thailand and expand the competency of the company to provide telecommunication services as well as respond to the customer demand within the servicing area.

#### **About THAICOM 8**

THAICOM 8 will have a total of 24 Ku-Band transponders, covering Thailand, South Asia and Africa. THAICOM 8 will serve customers' needs for increased Ku-band capacity and also strengthen THAICOM's Hot Bird platform at 78.5 Degrees East. Orbital Sciences Corporation will be the manufacturer of the satellite and Space Exploration Technologies Corporation (SPACE X) will be the launcher of the satellite.

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