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From Swarm to Starlink:

Navigating the Satellite Legal Regime

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Domestic **International**

Congress

Treaties
UNOOSA
COPUOS
IADC

US Agencies

Department of State (DDTC)

Department of Commerce (BIS)

FAA (Launch)

FCC (Operations and Spectrum)

NOAA (Earth Imaging)

NASA

NTIA

SEC (Securities Regulations)

License Applications

NPRM

Export Control Considerations

ITAR and EAR

Foreign Tech | Partner Disclosures | Licenses | Interns, Employees, Contractors

International Telecommunications Union ("ITU") (Spectrum Management)

NGOs

AAS
IISL
SIA
SmallSat Alliance

(examples)

Regional Blocs (eg EU)

States

State Agencies

Treaties
UNOOSA
COPUOS
IADC

NGOs

APSCC
IAU
IISL
SIA
SmallSat Alliance

(examples)

The satellite legal regime involves diverse actors, issues, and sub-issues. Even limited to the domestic sphere, there still exist international influences – particularly in relation to UN treaties and export control. Depending on the scope of the satellite mission, an actor may be required to interact with several regulatory bodies in multiple jurisdictions. Additionally, in the United States, most regulatory actions – whether approval of licenses or regulatory rule-making – will invite participation from interested parties during a public comment period that could influence the final decisions. Apart from navigating government intricacies, there also exist related issues each involving specific nuance.

Given the foregoing, an understanding of the satellite legal regime becomes essential for any actor within the satellite industry. This Poster provides a brief synopsis into the satellite legal regime. For additional content and narrative, please explore the QR codes and/or contact me.

Public Comment
https://beta.regulations.gov/

Interested Parties

Final Rule-Making and/or License Decisions

COURTS

Related Issues

Compliance (Swarm)

End-of-Life

Environment

General Business

Good Citizenship

Insurance

IP

Orbital or Space Debris

Planetary Protection

Reflection (eg Starlink)

SSA & STM

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