

Space Communications

The Division covers the following activities: Design, manufacture, installation, commissioning and system testing of earth terminal stations, including shipborne installations for satellite communication.

Communications and other electronic hardware packages in satellites.

Ground-based equipment for tracking, telemetry, meteorology and military applications.

Space Communications Division is currently producing earth station communications equipment for the civil global INTELSAT communications network, due to commence operation this year.

Important contracts awarded to the Division include:

Britain's first military satellite communication earth stations for the Ministry of Defence.

Britain's first civil overseas satellite communication earth station constructed for Cable and Wireless Ltd on Ascension Island. This is part of the Apollo 'Man-on-the-Moon' project.

Britain's new Goonhilly II civil satellite communication earth station for the GPO.

The traditional Marconi 'turnkey' services, whereby the Company undertakes not only the supply of equipment but also auxiliary power supplies, civil engineering etc. are extended to the supply of space communication stations.

As a result of the dynamic nature of satellite communication developments, new and varied techniques are continually being applied to ground equipment. To some extent, changes can be catered for in the flexibility of system design, but there is often a need for special equipment. The review in these pages can only be indicative of future systems and equipment. Space Communications Division welcomes detailed enquiries from customers with special requirements. Techniques and systems not covered by existing ranges are investigated by the Division and, in close co-operation with the client, a custom-built design is evolved and executed.