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News Release

DSTA AND AST SPACEMOBILE DEEPEN SPACE-BASED CELLULAR BROADBAND PARTNERSHIP

Singapore's Defence Science and Technology Agency (DSTA) has signed a contract with U.S.-based AST SpaceMobile to demonstrate space-based cellular broadband network to provide connectivity in areas where there is no terrestrial mobile network coverage.

Building upon a [memorandum of understanding signed in 2025](#), the collaboration will extend network coverage from space to enhance connectivity for humanitarian assistance, disaster relief and emergency response situations in remote areas. This complements existing terrestrial infrastructure by providing an additional layer of connectivity to ensure seamless and resilient communications during emergencies.

"Robust connectivity forms the backbone of effective coordination and accurate information sharing during operations. We look forward to deepening this partnership, as it opens doors to advancing connectivity solutions that could strengthen our communications network," said DSTA's Director Advanced Systems, Ms Ng Hwee Ping.

"Space-based cellular broadband connectivity is a vital tool. By using space-based infrastructure to eliminate coverage gaps from space, we are ensuring reliable connectivity which is critical for Singapore's defence and emergency services," said Chris Ivory, AST SpaceMobile's Chief Commercial Officer and General Manager, Government Business. "This agreement moves us as a step closer to delivering a resilient, 'always-on' layer of connectivity that empowers Singapore's mission-critical operations."

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About Defence Science and Technology Agency

The Defence Science and Technology Agency (DSTA) is a leading technology organisation that drives innovation and delivers state-of-the-art capabilities to make the Singapore Armed Forces a formidable fighting force. Harnessing and exploiting science and technology, our engineers and IT professionals leverage multidisciplinary expertise to equip our soldiers with advanced systems to defend Singapore. DSTA also contributes its technological expertise to support national-level developments. To achieve our mission, DSTA excels in systems engineering, digitalised platforms, cyber, software development and more.

Visit www.dsta.gov.sg for more information.

About AST SpaceMobile

AST SpaceMobile is building the first and only global cellular broadband network in space to operate directly with standard, unmodified mobile devices based on our extensive IP and patent portfolio, designed for both commercial and government applications. Our engineers and space scientists are on a mission to enable 4G and 5G space-based cellular broadband to every device, everywhere, for today's nearly 6 billion mobile subscribers globally. For more information, follow AST SpaceMobile on [YouTube](#), [X\(Formerly Twitter\)](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Facebook](#). Watch [this video](#) for an overview of the SpaceMobile mission.