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Skylogic Italia

TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES VIA SATELLITE TO TOURIST RESORTS, MARINAS, PORTS AND BOATS AT SEA

An important cooperation agreement between Eutelsat's Italian subsidiary and Club Méditerranée after a year of highly successful experimentation in the Club's villages in Greece and Italy

High-speed broadband access to internet via satellite is now also possible for users in hotels, tourist resorts and villages and also marinas and ports: in particular, Club Méditerranée has used D-STAR technology, provided by Skylogic (the Italian branch of EUTELSAT, leading satellite operator worldwide) and integrated with time code management technology from Greek partner Video&Suono, to set up a new Satellite-Wifi-Internet service for guests in many of its villages.

Easy to install and use, highly economical in terms of costs, the service was first introduced in Greece during the 2004/2005 tourist season at Mare Nostrum ClubMed village in Vravrona – (Athens), and this was followed by experimentation during the complete winter and summer 2005/2006 tourist season in numerous other hotels and tourist resorts in Greece and Italy, and in particular in the following Club Med villages: Athenia in Marathon, Gregolimano in Edipso and Kos in Kefalos, in Greece, and then for Italy, Cervinia in Val d'Aosta, Caprera in Sardinia, Metaponto in Basilicata, Otranto in Apulia, Napitia in Calabria and Kamarina in Sicily.

In each structure there were two fixed terminals available for guests and a WiFi network providing coverage for laptop computers, via time codes (using cards purchased in the village). A GSM telephone and broadband internet service was also tried out successfully on the Grandi Navi Veloci luxury cruise-ferries of the Grimaldi Group based in Genoa, operating in the western Mediterranean.

In view of the excellent response from guests and the success of the business operation so far, Club Méditerranée and Skylogic Italia intend to extend their collaboration in order to increase service penetration by creating a single HOT LINE that will be able to coordinate and manage the various aspects of the connection, especially for widely spread structures such as those of Club Med, which has villages all over the world.

The project also plans to extend coverage of the service, especially the WiFi network, in order to encourage wider, more flexible use of internet access via laptop computers, and to implement complementary satellite connection services which could be used by all the villages in the Club Med network to exchange information and publicity.

About Skylogic Italia

Based in Turin, Skylogic is one of the largest broadband IP satellite platforms in the world. Its operations centre is equipped to provide a complete range of broadband services, including content distribution, IP videostreaming, business TV, marine applications, videoconferencing, remote control of installations, telemedicine, e-learning and VoIP telephone calls. The teleport is connected by optic fibre to the Turin internet exchange point and uses capacity on the fleet of Eutelsat satellites to reach users in Europe, Asia, the Americas and Africa. Skylogic Italia's clients include small- and medium-sized enterprises, multinational companies, agencies and government organisations.

About Video&Suono

Video & Suono Telecom SA is collaborator of Eutelsat and Skylogic since many years.



Its main activity is the terrestrial broadcasting equipment for radio and television stations as well as special satellite applications.

Video & Suono Telecom SA dispose one of the bigger maritime platform in Europe in collaboration with Eutelsat providing bidirectional satellite services like intranet, internet, telephony Voice over IP, payphone, crew telephone, Internet corner, Wi-Fi service and GSM services for international waters in a fleet of 33 vessels of Superfast Ferries, Blue Star Ferries, ANEK Lines, NEL Lines that are sailing in the Greek, Adriatic, Baltic waters and Scotland.

Video & Suono Telecom SA is actively involved in Satellite Wi-Fi services that apply to hotels and small settlements where there is not ADSL lines or fiber optics.

It provides satellite Wi-Fi connection and management with prepaid cards in 44 hotels in Greece including these of Club Mediterranee.

A future project is the broadband satellite bidirectional services for trains and airplanes.

About Club Méditerranée

Club Méditerranée is the inventor of the Holiday Village concept and the leading world operator. It has 84 Villages spread over 5 continents in 40 countries.

It was Club Med that revolutionised the package holiday by inventing the “Club” formula in 1950: all-inclusive, as much sport as you like, Mini-Clubs, buffets, collier-bars, etc.

Club Med intends to return to its pioneering spirit and regain its uniqueness, targeting a more up-market clientele with an innovating range of services.

The new strategy concentrates on a luxury, convivial, multi-cultural product.