Satellite service providers

Compiled by {TESS+}

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Amazon Leo, formerly Project Kuiper, is a new satellite broadband network from Amazon that will provide high-speed internet connectivity across the world, including rural and remote areas beyond the reach of traditional communication networks. The planned design of Amazon Leo includes more than 3,000 low Earth orbit (LEO) satellites in addition to ground infrastructure and customer terminals. As of early December 2025, approximately 200 satellites have been launched with the rollout of the planned 3,000+ satellites expected to conclude in 2028. Amazon plans to start offering services to the public in 2026 as their network build-out progresses and coverage expands.

Product Offering	Offers a range of customer terminals to meet a diverse range of user needs: Leo Nano - a 18x18cm model (~1kg) that delivers downlink speeds up to 100 Mbps; Leo Pro - an 28x28cm model (~2.3kg) that delivers downlink speeds up to 400 Mbps; and Leo Ultra – a 76x51cm enterprise-grade antenna (~18kg) that delivers downlink speeds up to 1 gigabit per second (Gbps) and uplink speeds up to 400 Mbps. Amazon Leo will also support portable service options.
Emergency Comms	Offers a reliable alternative to maintain communications during natural hazards and other disruptions to terrestrial networks. The key requirement to delivering this resiliency is ensuring that regulatory licensing is in place for Amazon Leo to operate in areas prone to natural disasters.
Advantages	Capacity for deep integration with Amazon Web Services (AWS) cloud tools
Pricing	Currently not yet publicly available but customers can join their mailing list here to receive updates and notifications

Iridium is a global satellite communications company that provides access to voice and data services globally. It operates a LEO satellite network with 66 cross-linked satellites providing 100 percent global coverage.

Product Offering	Product categories include satellite phones, push-to-talk devices, portable Wi-Fi hotspots, Internet of Things (IoT) devices, and broadband terminals based on Iridium's satellite network. In 2023 Iridium officially joined 3GPP, the consortium that sets global communications standards for 5G. This signalled Iridium's approach to make its LEO constellation compatible with 5G standards used by mass-market smartphones supporting its direct-to-device strategy. Iridium offers an Alternative Position Navigation and Timing (APNT) service called Iridium Satellite Time and Location (STL) that provides a backup for global navigation satellite systems (GNSS) like GPS. Whilst use of Iridium STL draws more battery on the device side due to its reliance on the Iridium LEO network, it does provide a backup in cases of GNSS signal interference, jamming or outages.
Emergency Comms	Iridium's LEO satellite network is designed to be unaffected by local ground conditions and uses L-band frequencies less susceptible to weather interference. The Iridium network offers true global coverage, including the polar regions
Advantages	Ubiquitous coverage enables the delivery of global, pole-to-pole mobile satellite communication services. Iridium is transitioning from Short Burst Data to the much faster Iridium Messaging Transport for higher-speed data, focusing on IoT and a global navigation satellite system that is resistant to interference and jamming.
Pricing	Please refer to relevant United Nations LTAs for pricing of Iridium products and services. Contact tess@wfp.org if you require assistance identifying relevant LTAs.

Thuraya—the mobile satellite services subsidiary of Space42—provides mobile satellite communication services through a network of geostationary satellites, offering voice and data connectivity to locations in Europe, the Middle East, Africa, Asia, and Oceania. In January 2025, Thuraya launched Thuraya-4 (T4), a next-generation satellite system which became commercially available to customers in November 2025. The coverage of T4 is wider than Thuraya-2 (T2) and will now also cover northern Europe, Madagascar and South Africa.

Product Offering	Provides satellite-based voice and data connectivity across sectors including energy, government, maritime, and humanitarian. Product categories: satellite phones, the Thuraya One dual-mode smartphone, and a range of L-band terminals for land, maritime, and vehicle use. These devices offer voice, SMS, tracking, and data services, with features like SOS alerts, geo-fencing, and dual-mode satellite/cellular connectivity. The Thuraya-4 satellite launch plans to bring 16+ new products to market including the new Thuraya NEO series of satellite terminals which will take advantage of the new Thuraya-4 next-generation satellite network. Most old terminals will continue to work on T4 but need to be restarted to access services on the new satellite. In September 2025, Space42 and Viasat announced a new joint venture called Equatys to enable global direct-to-device (D2D) services and facilitate the evolution of mobile satellite services (MSS) to a 5G network environment aligned with 3GPP standards. Services on the Equatys n etwork will combine existing geo-stationary satellite capabilities as well as investment in new LEO satellites.

THURAYA

Emergency Comms	Thuraya's satellite network offers responders compact, portable, and versatile equipment that can operate under demanding conditions and in disaster zones (e.g. Typhoon Haiyan in the 2013). Always check the latest Thuraya coverage map to ensure services are available in geographies of interest.
Advantages	The Thuraya network covers approximately two-thirds of the world across Europe, the Middle East, Africa, Asia, and Oceania with network improvements in the pipeline through ventures such as Equatys. Its products support VoIP apps, remote tracking, distress alerts, and integration with third-party systems
Pricing	Please refer to relevant United Nations LTAs for pricing of Iridium products and services. Contact tess@wfp.org if you require assistance identifying relevant LTAs.

Eutelsat OneWeb provides global broadband internet via its LEO satellite network. The OneWeb LEO Ku-band constellation provides global coverage through 600+ cross-linked satellites providing end-user internet speeds of up to 195 Mbps.

Product Offering	Offers satellite-based high-speed internet via its global LEO satellite network, which provides global coverage including polar reach. OneWeb follows a business-to-business model partnering with high-value enterprise, government, and telecoms carrier clients (including MNOs) to provide services to end-users. User terminals in different sizes and speeds are available from a number of manufacturers including Hughes and Intellian. OneWeb and Intelsat have a global partnership to combine OneWeb's LEO and Intelsat's geostationary (GEO) satellite networks to provide in-flight connectivity to the aviation industry.
Emergency Comms	OneWeb network’s low latency and high-speed capabilities allow first responders, disaster recovery teams, and other emergency services to have reliable voice, data, and video communications when terrestrial networks fail. The variety of user terminals cater to different market needs, and ruggedized terminal options are available from some service providers.
Advantages	The network features multi-layered security and is easily interoperable with existing systems and infrastructure. It delivers a suite of user terminals, assured expert support 24/7, and rapid deployment capabilities.
Pricing	A variety of service plans that utilise the OneWeb network are available depending on the application, including high-speed satellite internet for maritime, enterprise, and remote land use. These plans are not available directly to consumers, but through partner companies. In addition, OneWeb does not sell hardware directly to end-users.

Starlink is a satellite internet service provided by SpaceX that uses a large constellation of LEO satellites to provide high-speed, low-latency broadband internet access on a global scale. Starlink provides a reliable alternative in locations where traditional broadband internet is unavailable or constrained. It uses a network of thousands of smaller LEO satellites at an altitude of approximately 550km (compared to OneWeb's LEO satellites which operate at an altitude of approximately 1200km). As of now, approximately 8,800 Starlink LEO satellites are in orbit with the number steadily increasing due to new satellite launches. Starlink already serves more than 8 million subscribers across 150 countries and territories.

Product Offering	Starlink offers satellite-based high-speed internet via its global LEO satellite network. Its direct-to-consumer sales model offers simplicity to end-users through a standard kit that comes with everything needed to get started, and the Starlink app to help customers determine the best installation location for their terminal. A variety of flexible Starlink service plans are available for both personal and business users supporting different use cases including residential, roaming, fixed business sites, land mobility, maritime and aviation. Customer terminals are available including the Starlink Mini which is a compact, portable kit that can easily fit in a backpack to provide internet on the go. Starlink launched a direct-to-device (D2D) service allowing smartphones to connect directly to Starlink services, initially supporting SMS and emergency alerts and plans to expand to voice and light data in the future. The Starlink D2D service is currently being delivered through partnerships with local mobile network operators (MNOs) to extend their network reach to areas without coverage. With Starlink rapidly progressing its network build-out, a key challenge is obtaining regulatory approvals to legally operate the Starlink service in each country. The Starlink availability map can be found here.

STARLINK

Emergency Comms	Starlink is increasingly used by governments and humanitarian agencies for emergency connectivity. The simplicity of the solution is attracting users to the service over other options. It provides a resilient lifeline for communities and first responders through rapid deployment kits, 24/7 crisis team, and service credits to affected populations. Starlink has been used to establish connectivity in a number of emergencies, including when Hurricane Melissa hit the Caribbean in October 2025.
Advantages	With Starlink satellites orbiting closer to Earth and its efficient routing of traffic in space, Starlink is able to minimise latency and increase the speed of its broadband internet service. The competitive pricing of Starlink user terminals and service plans also positions Starlink as a viable alternative to local fixed ISP plans in some markets. SpaceX will begin launching its third-generation satellites in the first half of 2026, which they report will add an order of magnitude improvement in capacity compared to their current generation of satellites.
Pricing	Please refer to relevant United Nations LTAs for pricing of Starlink products and services. Contact tess@wfp.org if you require assistance identifying relevant LTAs. Service plans vary from personal to business and further details are on their website.

Lynk specialises in direct-to-device (D2D) satellite connectivity, enabling mobile phones to connect directly to satellites for SMS, cell broadcast, and emerging voice and data services. The company partners with mobile network operators (MNOs) and is expanding its constellation and technology stack.

Lynk currently operates six satellites, with additional launches planned. Lynk is developing a satellite manufacturing facility in the U.S. and plans to launch 45 third-generation satellites by the end of 2026. The full Lynk satellite constellation is expected to consist of approximately 600–700 satellites by around 2028.

Lynk recently established strategic partnerships with Intelsat and SES for backhaul, leveraging their MEO and GEO satellite infrastructure to extend connectivity

Product Offering	Continuous global coverage is not yet available on the Lynk network but coverage will expand as additional satellites are launched. Lynk's business model is centred on partnerships with local MNOs to deliver its satellite-based services directly to their customers. Commercial services offered by Lynk include 2G SMS and cell broadcast, with voice and light data applications successfully demonstrated but not yet commercially available. Lynk's 2G stack (SMS, cell broadcast) is commercial; 4G stack (SMS, light data) is in field testing; and 5G stack is under development.
Emergency Comms	Lynk currently supports 2G SMS and cell broadcast commercially through partnerships with mobile network operators. The company is scaling up to provide additional services (voice and data) and expand its network coverage.

Advantages	Lynk's direct-to-device approach enables global emergency communications and IoT applications, with ongoing partnerships and field testing to expand coverage and capabilities. Lynk is one of the first-movers in the D2D space.
Pricing	Lynk's services are offered via partner MNOs, who determine pricing and plans. Lynk's D2D services are not sold directly to consumers.

Inmarsat provides reliable maritime safety communications, and it has since expanded into a full suite of mobile satellite services across maritime, aviation, enterprise, and government sectors. Its network operates through geostationary satellites delivering voice, data, and broadband services to users in remote or underserved regions worldwide.

Product Offering	Inmarsat delivers a wide portfolio of services, including high-speed broadband (e.g., Fleet Xpress), narrowband safety services, global L-band connectivity, IoT solutions, and next-generation hybrid services like NexusWave through its parent company Viasat. These services support critical operations at sea, in the air, and on land with dependable connectivity for navigation, crew welfare, operational efficiency, and enterprise communications.
Emergency Comms	Inmarsat plays a key role in global safety systems such as the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS), enabling distress signaling, real-time emergency messaging, and resilient satellite links even when terrestrial networks fail. Its Inmarsat-C system ensures reliable emergency alerts and messaging for maritime, aviation, and remote-area operations.
Advantages	Key strengths include global coverage through GEO satellites, high network reliability, proven performance in disaster scenarios, and seamless integration across maritime, aviation, and enterprise ecosystems.
Pricing	Pricing varies by service type and is offered through service plans tailored to maritime, aviation, and enterprise applications, generally procured via authorized partners or institutional agreements (e.g., LTAs).