



Making the Rural Connection: FCC Rural Satellite Forum

**Tuesday, January 27, 2004 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20554**

<http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/rural/ruralforum.html>

**1-888-CALL-FCC (voice)
(1-888-225-5322)
1 -888-TELL-FCC (TTY)
(1-888-835-5322)**

Making the Rural Connection: FCC Rural Satellite Forum is open to the public and will be held at the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) headquarters building, 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC. Exhibit areas open at 9:00 a.m. and the program begins at 10:00 a.m.

As FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell recently stated, satellite technology holds tremendous potential as an effective solution for many parts of the nation, especially rural and remote areas. This forum is designed to explore that potential by educating the public and users about the availability of services, the development of new and innovative service and economic approaches to serving the communications needs of rural America.



A **Basic Satellite Overview** will acquaint attendees with satellite technology, the industry's capabilities and the suitability of satellites in providing communications services in rural areas. The FCC Chairman and Commissioners will participate in program sessions.

The forum will feature satellite-based communications systems serving rural areas of the United States. It will include four panels of experts and providers as well as demonstrations and exhibits. The event will highlight specific consumer applications:

- ① Telemedicine and distance learning,
- ① Public safety and homeland security,
- ① Agriculture and farming, and
- ① Broadband access and mass media entertainment.



The FCC International Bureau, Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau and Office of Strategic Planning are coordinating this event. The Forum will be webcast live and will be available at:

<http://www.fcc.gov/realaudio/#jan27>



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Accommodations for People with Disabilities

The meeting site is fully accessible to people using mobility aids. Handouts will be provided in accessible formats. Sign language interpreters, open captioning, and assistive listening devices will be provided. Request other reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities as early as possible. Last minute requests will be accepted, but may be impossible to fill. Send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530 (voice), 202-418-0432 (TTY).