The Hill reports that LightSquared is arguing that the fact that senior executives at Trimble sold stocks earlier this year shows that they knew the company’s devices are at fault for interference by LightSquared. Jim Kirkland, Trimble's general counsel, said LightSquared’s accusations are "lacking in substance," and the sales were unrelated to LightSquared's conditional waiver:

- "These sales and option exercises were made during an open trading window following announcement of Trimble's 2010 financial results, which were positively received by the market"... "Stock options are an important part of many companies' director and executive compensation programs. Presumably LightSquared executives have stock based compensation, which they will no doubt exercise if and when they create meaningful shareholder value."

A blog for TMF Associates updates a past analysis of LightSquared’s cash flow.

Inside GNSS has a detailed article on LightSquared’s beefed up lobbying and advertising efforts.

Outlets including Multichannel News and Mobile Enterprise continue to report that Republicans on the House Small Business Committee have asked the FCC not to approve LightSquared’s network until it has ensured that it will not interfere with GPS.

Outlets including Fierce Broadband Wireless and Helicopter Association International continue to report that LightSquared has announced a partnership with PCTEL, which LightSquared said has developed an antenna that will allow existing high-precision GPS users to retrofit their GPS devices to make them compatible with LightSquared's network.

A cite list and links to the full text of these and other articles follow.

1. FierceBroadbandWireless, LightSquared announces another GPS interference fix, October 31, 2011 Monday 4:05 AM EST, LENGTH: 424 words
2. The Hill, LightSquared raises questions about GPS-maker stock sales, By Brendan Sasso - 10/31/11 12:40 PM ET
4. The Register, LightSquared pulls out all the stops to get FCC approval; Financial shenanigans, conflicts of interest and a technical solution?, By Bill Ray, 31st October 2011 17:40 GMT
5. AINonline.com, LightSquared Threatens To Sue, by John Sheridan, October 31, 2011, 3:48 PM
6. AG Professional, LightSquared questions government advisor’s motives, Colleen Scherer, October 31, 2011
7. Mobile Enterprise, PCTEL, LightSquared Collaborating on New Antenna Solution to Eliminate GPS Interference, Posted Date: 10/31/2011
9. TMF Associates, What happened to LightSquared’s second satellite?, 10.31.11
10. NBAA, Coalition Puts Government’s Cost of LightSquared Interference at $245B, October 31, 2011
12. GPS World, 2011 GPS World Leadership Dinner, November 1, 2011 By: Alan Cameron

***Excerpts/Links to Full Text of Articles***

**FierceBroadbandWireless, LightSquared announces another GPS interference fix, October 31, 2011**
Monday 4:05 AM EST, LENGTH: 424 words

LightSquared, which is proposing to build a nationwide wholesale LTE network in L-band satellite spectrum, announced another fix for its highly publicized interference problem with high-precision GPS receivers such as those used in agriculture, surveying and defense industries.

The company has partnered with antenna maker PCTEL, which LightSquared said has developed an antenna that will allow existing high-precision GPS users to retrofit their GPS devices to make them compatible with LightSquared’s network.

LightSquared said the antenna provides high precision GPS users with another in a series of solutions to make their equipment LightSquared-compatible. Last month the company signed a deal with Javad GNSS to develop a system that can be adapted to work with high-precision GPS devices.

To read more click [here](#).  
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**The Hill, LightSquared raises questions about GPS-maker stock sales, By Brendan Sasso - 10/31/11 12:40 PM ET**

Wireless company LightSquared is arguing that the fact that senior executives of GPS-maker Trimble sold millions of dollars of stocks earlier this year shows that the executives knew their devices are at fault for interference problems with LightSquared’s network.

The sales came within weeks of the Federal Communications Commission granting a conditional waiver to allow LightSquared to move forward with plans to provide wholesale wireless broadband service. Tests have revealed that LightSquared's network disrupts GPS devices, and FCC officials have said they will not grant final approval until the company resolves the problem.

LightSquared blames GPS devices for the interference, saying the problem is that GPS devices "look into" LightSquared's spectrum. The company argues that the stock sales show that Trimble executives believed they would have to pay to adjust their devices.

To read more click [here](#).  
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Washington -- A group of Republicans on the House Small Business Committee have asked the Federal Communications Commission not to approve LightSquared's wholesale national 4G wireless network until it has insured that it will not interfere with GPS devices.

That came in a letter from the group, led by Rep. Sam Graves (R-Missouri), the committee chairman, to FCC chairman Julius Genachowski.

The commission originally conditioned its waiver for the service, which uses satellite spectrum for terrestrial service, on resolving interference issues, and has reiterated that in putting the service on hold until more testing is done, which is slated to be completed by the end of November.

But the Republicans want to make sure they are on the same page as the commission in terms of what would qualify as a clean bill of health for LightSquared's service. In their view, that means no interference, period.

"We request that the Commission not proceed with approval of LightSquared's proposal until federal testing reveals that there will be no interference with GPS," they wrote, "thereby ensuring that small businesses will not have to incur significant monetary burdens to try and filter potential interference to their GPS reception devices."

To read more click here.

The Register, LightSquared pulls out all the stops to get FCC approval; Financial shenanigans, conflicts of interest and a technical solution?, By Bill Ray, 31st October 2011 17:40 GMT

LightSquared is fighting with every weapon at its disposal to win the war of public perception, and get FCC approval for its controversial network before the cash runs out.

The wannabe-network operator reckons it has solved the GPS-interference problem, but the battle is now political. So it's accusing a prime government advisor of having a financial interest in seeing LightSquared fail, while also pointing out that directors of GPS-developer Trimble dumped millions of shares following the FCC's last ruling in LightSquared's favour.

The technical solution involves using new GPS kit from Javad GNSS, which is already being tested. LightSquared has also announced new filters costing as little as $6, and a new antenna which was originally described as something which could be retrofitted to existing GPS devices, but later turned into a designed-in feature.

Estimates vary, but there are something in the region of half a million high-precision GPS receivers, which will be knocked out if LightSquared is allowed to build its proposed LTE network in the radio frequencies previously reserved for satellite communications. Even if better filters, and/or antennas, can be retrofitted, there is still the question of who is going to pay for them.

LightSquared contends that it is up to GPS receivers to ignore its signals, and that kit conforming to the GPS standard shouldn't pick them up anyway. The GPS crowd reckons it's too late for that, with billions of devices already being used daily they want neighbouring frequencies kept quiet.
AINonline.com, LightSquared Threatens To Sue, by John Sheridan, October 31, 2011, 3:48 PM

Clearly impatient with the way the company’s plan for its nationwide broadband Internet project is becoming further and further delayed by opposition from the GPS user community, several federal government departments, members of Congress and, reportedly, within the FCC bureaucracy itself, a LightSquared spokesman threatened a legal counter offensive during a conference call to reporters. “If it is impossible to get a decision on this that allows us to go forward, I think our way forward is pretty clear, that we then have to insist on our legal rights,” stated Jeffrey Carlisle, LightSquared’s vice president of regulatory affairs and public policy. “If you have to be the bad guy, and go out and start...insisting on your property line, well, then that’s what we’ll do.”

The question is, who would LightSquared sue, and for what? What exactly are its present “legal rights”? It can hardly sue the FCC, a government body that appears not to have broken any of its rules to LightSquared’s disadvantage. Quite the contrary: the GPS industry and users claim that the FCC has bent its own rules in some of its decisions, allegedly at LightSquared’s request. However, so far the FCC has not changed its position that it will not grant operational approval to LightSquared until the company can demonstrate that such operations do not interfere with GPS.

AG Professional, LightSquared questions government advisor’s motives, Colleen Scherer, October 31, 2011

The battle over whether LightSquared’s proposed 4G broadband communications network will be allowed to move forward took a turn last week when the company accused a government advisor for putting his company’s interests ahead of his position on the federal advisory board.

Bradford Parkinson serves on the Space-Based Positioning, Navigation and Timing Advisory Board, but he is also the director of Trimble, a Stanford professor and is considered a GPS expert. Parkinson has a multimillion dollar stake in Trimble, which has been leading the opposition to LightSquared’s proposed plan, it has been reported.

Mobile Enterprise, PCTEL, LightSquared Collaborating on New Antenna Solution to Eliminate GPS Interference, Posted Date: 10/31/2011

LightSquared has announced a collaboration with antenna solutions developer PCTEL to resolve concerns over potential interference between LightSquared’s planned nationwide wireless broadband network and high precision GPS receivers. PCTEL has developed an antenna designed to allow existing high precision users to retrofit their GPS devices to make them compatible with LightSquared’s network.
“PCTEL has developed GPS antenna solutions that have solved a variety of interference issues that others said were unsolvable,” LightSquared executive vice president of ecosystem development and satellite business Martin Harriman said in a statement. “Their wideband antenna provides an efficient and elegant solution for thousands of high precision device users.”

PCTEL’s antenna solutions currently address applications including public safety, agriculture, construction and aviation. The company’s new antenna will be independently tested with a range of receivers at Alcatel-Lucent Bell Labs in Murray Hill, N.J.

To read more click here.

Helicopter Association International, GA Caucus Chairman Asks FCC to Halt LightSquared, October 31, 2011

House Small Business Chairman Sam Graves (R-Mo.), who also serves as Chair of the House General Aviation Caucus, and eight of his Republican colleagues have written to the Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) requesting that the FCC not proceed with LightSquared’s waiver until federal testing ascertains that there will be no interference with all types of GPS devices.

Members of Congress are concerned that the LightSquared proposal may result in very problematic interference with GPS technology that small business utilize on a daily basis. Nearly 1 million high precision receivers could require replacement or retrofit, costing an estimated $10 billion.

To read more click here.

TMF Associates, What happened to LightSquared’s second satellite?, 10.31.11

Back in September I tried to analyze LightSquared’s cashflows, in order to predict when it might run out of money. A Debtwire article published in the FT earlier this month gives some useful data which has enabled me to refine that analysis. In particular, it states that after paying Sprint its $290M and raising $265M as an unsecured term loan, at the end of the second quarter of 2011 LightSquared had about $614M in cash.

That amount is very close to my estimate, with one exception, namely that it appears LightSquared did not repay Boeing’s vendor financing loan of ~$120M in December 2010. That loan was secured against the SkyTerra-2 (formerly MSV-2) satellite, which LightSquared told the FCC in October 2010 would be launched in the first half of 2011 (to meet the deadline in LightSquared’s Canadian license to place the satellite in orbit of April 23, 2011). Of course that didn’t happen, and I assume that LightSquared cancelled the launch to save money.

To read more click here.

NBAA, Coalition Puts Government’s Cost of LightSquared Interference at $245B, October 31, 2011
For months, an industry coalition has raised alarm over the potential costs to the industry (financial and otherwise) of disruption to Global Positioning System (GPS) service from interference produced by signals from telecommunications provider LightSquared. Now, the coalition has stepped forward to project the cost to government if LightSquared is allowed to force its broadband signal onto frequencies used by global positioning system receivers.

The Coalition to Save Our GPS, of which NBAA is a member, has produced a white paper estimating the potential impact to government agencies at $250 billion.

Download the Coalition to Save Our GPS White Paper.

"A compilation of the limited number of publicly available statements and estimates concerning the costs the federal government would face...show that the federal government has invested at least $47 billion in GPS infrastructure and devices; that an estimated $160 billion in public safety, efficiency and socioeconomic benefits would be at risk if LightSquared is allowed to proceed; and that costs incurred for GPS device and infrastructure replacement, as well as increased costs because of efficiency losses, could be $38 billion," the group stated in an October 27 release.

"[W]e believe this snapshot helps vividly illustrate how widespread and engrained the use of GPS, particularly high-precision GPS, is in the federal government, and lends insight into how disruptive any replacement or retrofitting process would be."

To read more click here.

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Inside GNSS News, More Lobbyists Join LightSquared’s Battle with GPS Community, Dee Ann Divis, October 31, 2011

LightSquared is literally pumping up the volume in its efforts to win support for its proposed broadband network adding a host of new lobbyists and a radio campaign to its existing stable of advocates and print advertising efforts.

The firm is seeking permission from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to start construction on a network of some 40,000 high-powered broadcast towers, the backbone of a new, nation-wide wireless 4G network. Tests of the proposed signal have shown clearly that the system, as originally configured, will seriously interfere with the operation of the vast majority of GPS receivers.

New FCC-mandated tests are now underway on a modified LightSquared proposal, but the company is not waiting for the results. LightSquared has stepped up the advertising campaign it launched over the summer, adding radio ads on Washington’s very popular all-talk station WTOP to a plethora of print ads. The latter, launched this summer in the Wall Street Journal, the Washington Post and other D.C. publications include full page spreads in Politico, The Hill and National Journal Daily – which are widely read by members of Congress and their staff.

The advertisements are pushing the firm’s assertions that they have a solution to the interference issue and the GPS community was remiss in the design of its receivers — points with which members of the GPS community disagree strongly. Other LightSquared ads dangle the prospects of new jobs and better service for congressional constituents.
GPS World, 2011 GPS World Leadership Dinner, November 1, 2011 By: Alan Cameron

GPS World’s eighth annual Leadership Dinner took place during ION-GNSS in Portland, and was sponsored by Litton Consulting Group, Sigtem Technology, and JAVAD GNSS. Excerpts from some of the speakers’ remarks appear here, as well as photos from the "You Bet Your System" after-dinner game, the first GNSS Sweepstakes, a group exercise in probabilistic and equestrian studies.

Col. Robert Hessin, National Coordination Office for Space-Based PNT.
From my perspective, we have not communicated well enough at a national level a vision for the future of spectrum management and customer access to emerging wireless technologies. The bottom line is, had we planned in 2001 to go deliberately down this path with MSS spectrum, I’m confident we would have found a way to co-exist by 2014.

Col. Bernard Gruber, GPS Directorate.
The NPEF test conducted in April was robust and comprehensive, involving over 100 receivers from 24 organizations, spanning military, government, aviation, precision agriculture, automotive, and general use communities. The results demonstrated empirically that the LightSquared terrestrial signals in their original deployment plan interfered with all types of receivers tested. The military results were consistent with results obtained by commercial GPS industry organizations such as Trimble, Garmin, and John Deere through their own independently conducted tests.

We stand ready to work with the NTIA and LightSquared to complete additional testing on the newly proposed deployment plan and receiver filter designs. We are conducting additional tests of cellular and general navigation devices on the LightSquared “Lower 10″ MHz terrestrial and handset signals. We are also prepared to test filters proposed as mitigations for high-precision GPS receivers when they become available. As General Shelton stated in his recent congressional testimony, AFSPC remains open to ideas on mitigation strategies that will ensure continued GPS service to billions of users worldwide.

To read more click here.