

## **A satellite to serve the Commonwealth deserves attention as a Millennium project**

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Notes for discussion at Royal Commonwealth Society Colloquium, Ottawa, Feb. 20-22, 1998

The proposal by COMNET-IT that the Commonwealth should be served by its own satellite deserves debate. A low-cost (\$3-million perhaps), low orbit, equator-circling satellite for data communication has the merit of being bold, distinctive and valuable to our have-not neighbors.

But the idea, emerging in the Commonwealth Secretariat's Information Program review, seems to be getting the cold shoulder. It deserves better. If the merit claims can be proved to be valid, it would be a most imaginative Commonwealth memorial to mark the change of Millennium.

It also would be a showcase for Commonwealth technology.