

**ONE MACHINE, FIVE WAYS TO SAVE**  
**mailstation 2**  
DIGITAL MAILING SYSTEM



**#2 Increase productivity**  
 By mailing from your office, you and your employees can save valuable time.

[CLICK HERE](#)  
 TO LEARN ALL 5 WAYS  
 TO HELP YOUR BUSINESS SAVE.



Become a member | Log In  
 Portfolio | Forbes Magazine - just \$1.15/issue  
 Make Forbes.com My Home Page  
 Bookmark This Page



Search: **Forbes.com** Quotes Video Advanced

- U.S. EUROPE ASIA HOME PAGE FOR THE WORLD'S BUSINESS LEADERS Free Trial Issue
- HOME BUSINESS **TECH** MARKETS ENTREPRENEURS LEADERSHIP PERSONAL FINANCE FORBESLIFE LISTS OPINION
- Breakthroughs CIO Network Enterprise Imaging Internet Internet Infrastructure Personal Tech Security Wireless

**Sports** Click Here  
**MONEY**  
 Mike Ozanian

**Forbes** Attaché

Personalize Now!

PRESENTED BY



A groundbreaking series providing investment insights in a fast-changing market

[WATCH NOW](#)

Create your FREE

**Forbes** Attaché

Attaché is your personalized sidekick!

- Watch your Stocks
- Get your Industry News
- View the most Relevant Stories
- Follow your Sports Scores
- Know the Weather
- Gather your RSS Feeds

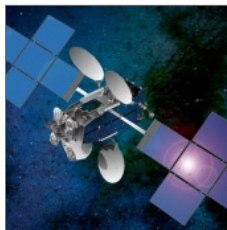
Forbes ATTACHE	
Index: 8.00 Details: Close	
Updated: June 26, 2009 4:16 PM EDT	
500 Stocks	
Watch List	
GOOGL	\$4.25 +0.07
MSFT	\$3.47 -0.01
YAH!	\$16.00 -0.14
DISC	\$18.75 -0.04
<small>Quotes are delayed by at least 15 minutes.</small>	
Watch List Alerts	Get Alerts
The Rough Side Of The Business	
Beating The Odds	
Track Time	Get Alerts
Events Calendar	Get Alerts
2009: CSCO Conference Call	
2009: CSCO Conference Call	
2009: CSCO Earnings Release	
Authors	Get Alerts
Rich Karlgaard	
Why Did Microsoft Drop?	
How The Fed Job	

[CREATE YOURS NOW](#)

Wireless

**Blasting Calls Around The World**

Scott Woolley, 05.01.09, 10:30 AM EDT

**When cellphones will get their messages across by way of satellite.**

**In Pictures: How To Put The Internet In Orbit**







LOS ANGELES - And you thought it already felt like a small world.

Over the next few years, a pack of satellites are slated to get a spot in the sky. The goal: to make it even easier and cheaper to call anywhere in the world via cellphone--and to provide a stunning variety of low-power, high-speed Web access to every

inch of the globe. Many of the birds will also carry aloft an array of penetrating electronic eyes, sensors that make the cameras used by Google Earth look downright myopic.

Here's what's on the list: In May, a rocket will take off from French Guiana, spitting into orbit a new communications satellite that will unfurl a giant 60-foot antenna--and for the first time, make it possible for consumer cellphones to have instant satellite backup anywhere in the U.S. Four months later, a series of four rockets are set to

**Article Controls**

-  [EMAIL](#)
-  [PRINT](#)
-  [REPRINT](#)
-  [NEWSLETTER](#)
-  [COMMENTS](#)
-  [SHARE](#)
- [YAHOO! BUZZ](#)

blast off from Kazakhstan, launching 24 [Globalstar](#) ( [GSAT - news - people](#) ) satellites into low-Earth orbit and blanketing the entire globe with faster [Internet access](#) and even better phone service. A year later, [Google's](#) ( [GOOG - news - people](#) ) satellite venture, O3B, will launch another 16 satellites into space, aiming to bring cheap, fast Web access to 3 billion people in poor nations .

**In Pictures: How To Put The Internet In Orbit**

That may sound like the stuff of sci-fi--and indeed, the first age of wildly ambitious satellite projects, in the 1990s, produced a long series of embarrassing failures with names like Teledesic, Iridium and Orbcomm. The billions of dollars those projects burned through relegated ambitious satellite projects to the drawing board for most of this decade.

But that's changing. Credit crisis or no, the world is about to enter a second age of wildly ambitious satellite projects.

The best argument for why this time will turn out differently for the satellite industry is perhaps best expressed by Mark Dankberg, who has the rare distinction of having run a successful satellite company, [ViaSat](#) ( [VSAT - news - people](#) ), for 23 years. Dankberg says first-generation digital satellites are the equivalent of the first-generation of digital cellphones from the 1990s: big, inefficient and not particularly reliable. He portrays the satellites now set for launch as orbiting iPhones: orders of magnitude more powerful and built to be Internet-friendly.

Dankberg likes to measure the magnitude of that astounding improvement by looking at how much raw capacity you can get for every \$1 million spent on a satellite--a yardstick he calls "megabits per megabuck." His ViaSat-1, set for launch at the end of 2010, will be able to transmit 100 gigabits per second

and cost \$400 million.

ViaSat's 250 megabits per megabuck is roughly 1,000 times better than the gear that was launched in the last great satellite boom. And the satellites that follow promise to perform well beyond that, providing raw speed, promising an array of abilities that will touch everyday life in a variety of unexpected and useful ways.

**Related Stories**

- [Collision 500 Miles Above The Earth](#)
- [Iridium Rising](#)
- [Google's Android Angst](#)
- [Mindset Over Model When Managing Risk](#)
- [Surfing Your iPhone--In A Plane](#)

**In Pictures**

- [10 Cool Gadgets For New Moms](#)
- [How To Put The Internet In Orbit](#)
- [The Web's Savviest Social Media Manipulators](#)
- [Top 10 Best And Worst Cosmetic Procedures](#)
- [Words Of The Year](#)

**Related Videos**

- [Beyond Facebook](#)
- [Web Tracking Your Health](#)
- [Lose Ego, Cure Stress](#)
- [Chrysler Filing Impact](#)
- [Econ Data Ahead](#)

Looks like the world keeps getting smaller all the time.

**In Pictures: How To Put The Internet In Orbit**

**Dugg on Forbes.com**

- [New Fee Structure For Law Firms - Forbes.com](#)
- [U.S. Mental Health Spending Rises, But Many Still Left Out](#)
- [Don't Bail Out California - Forbes.com](#)
- [In Depth: World's 20 Best Places To Live - Forbes.com](#)

Visit The Forbes.com Digg Channel



**See Also:**

- [Iridium Rising](#)
- [Collision 500 Miles Above The Earth](#)
- [Satellite Phone Surge](#)

**Get Stories By Email**

- Globalstar      Wireless
- Google            Internet
- ViaSat             Iridium
- Satellites

**ADVERTISEMENTS**

**DON'T Pay for White Teeth**

Learn the trick discovered by a mom to turn yellow teeth white w/under \$10. CathysTeethTrick.com

**Colon Detox Cleanses Reviewed**

Objective study of the top free trial cleansing products available. ColonReview.com

**Reverse Mortgage Options**

Learn about your reverse mortgage options and get a quote online. Bills.com

[Buy a link here](#)

**When Smart Is Dumb  
Eclipse: Many Hands, Light Work**

**Smart Grid Gets A Security Kick  
Iridium Rising  
Baby Tech**

[Surfing Your iPhone--In A Plane](#)

[Chrysler Filing Impact](#)

[Iridium Rising](#)

ADVERTISEMENTS

[Econ Data Ahead](#) ▶

**Rate This Story**

Your Rating ☆☆☆☆☆ Overall Rating ★★★★★

**Reader Comments**

**Comment On This Story**



[Intelligent Investing](#) | [Data](#) | [Knowledge](#) | [Insight](#) | [Wisdom](#)

**Today On Forbes.com**



**Bernanke: The End Is Near**

Joshua Zimbrun  
If the financial system does not relapse, the economy will return to growth this year, Fed chairman says.  
■ [The Recession Is Over](#)  
■ [Whitney: Capital Markets Regress](#)  
■ [Don't Wait For The Green Shoots To Grow](#)



[Chrysler Creditors Fight For Secrecy](#)



[The Consumer Spending Illusion](#)



[Keep Cool With Credit Card Firms](#)



[The Happy Warrior](#)

**Subscriptions**

[Subscribe To Newsletters](#)

[Subscriber Customer Service](#)

ADVERTISEMENT

---

[SITEMAP](#) [HELP](#) [CONTACT US](#) [INVESTMENT NEWSLETTERS](#) [FORBES CONFERENCES](#) [FORBES MAGAZINES](#)

[Ad Information](#) [Forbes.com Mobile](#) [RSS](#)  [Reprints/Permissions](#) [Subscriber Services](#)  
[Privacy Statement](#) [Terms, Conditions and Notices](#) [About Our Ads](#)  
2009 Forbes.com LLC™ All Rights Reserved

Dow Jones industrial average, Nasdaq composite and S&P 500 indexes are real time and are powered by Xignite. All other indexes and commodities are delayed at least 15 minutes. All pricing is automatically refreshed every five seconds for the first two minutes the page is open, refreshed every 10 seconds for the third minute the page is open, and refreshed every 15 seconds thereafter.