

- *Refaat Rashad*
- *Arab Institute of Navigation*
 - *Egypt*

SYSTEM PROVIDERS

- The ICG meeting held in Dubai three weeks ago revealed that USA is not the only player in the GNSS community. There are other system providers, they are moving fast and challenging the GPS.
- Though they are neither at the size nor the power of USA, but still, they have the same status as USA in the international committees, moreover they can exert some influence in the international domain. Therefore whatever is decided in USA regarding the GPS status has an effect on USA as well as on the other GNSS system providers, and they act in reciprocal way.

COMMERCIAL INTERFERENCE

- The GPS is not only vulnerability regarding the jamming and signal interferences issues, but notably, it is also vulnerable and suffering from commercial and policy interference. The story of Lightsquared has been made available in public for the international opinion with absolute transparency. Conflict of interest between money and safety regarding those 16 critical applications presented yesterday was notably obvious. This gray situation of commercial interference may results in;

Possible Consequences

- Less reliance on GPS against Glonass and other GNSS systems.
- GPS may lose ground as an extremely asset as a silky and soft power of USA beyond the borders, leaving other GNSS filling the gap on the cost of GPS.

PTA GPS

- One important factor in protection of GPS is to form an American User's Forum .
- The forum will resist all sort of interferences including the adverse commercial policies. The forum can present the interest of its members and loudly raise the users requirements.
- ION and other NGOs are qualified to establish such forum.



Thank you