

# Satellite gets its bleep back

WASHINGTON (AAP): The Intelsat 3 communications satellite in orbit over the Atlantic has been restored to service today after a one-month blackout.

The satellite, the latest and largest operating over the Atlantic, went out of action on June 29 when its antenna ceased functioning.

Comsat engineers said they had been able to shift the antenna back towards earth, its normal position.

The satellite can handle 1200 voice circuits as well as television signals.

At present, 132 voice circuits are in use between an earth station in Maine, in the north-eastern United States, and one at Raisting, West Germany. Another 132 circuits are in use between Maine and Puerto Rico.

Full service will be restored later if the satellite continues to perform well.

During the blackout period, the Communications Satellite Corporation used the Early Bird and Intelsat 2 Atlantic satellites for telephone communications between Europe and North America and routed television signals over the Pacific and Indian Oceans.

The Corporation, which manages the operation of the satellites for the International Telecommunications Satellite Consortium (Intelsat), attempted to launch a replacement last weekend but it failed to achieve the proper orbit.