

## **50 years in Service for Satellite Communications: The Radom at Raisting in Bavaria (Germany)**

On 28 June 1965, which is now exactly 50 years ago, the public telephone transmission via the satellite Intelsat I started. In Germany the signals were transferred via the first earth station on German soil, located in Raisting, which nowadays is a technical monument. This anniversary is so important especially since the Radom antenna is the last satellite station of its generation, which is still fully functional. The video shows historical material from the construction of the Radom, interviews with witnesses from the first years of operation, the refurbishment in 2010 and still ongoing research projects. The video is available with German commentary and also without.

### **About Radom Raisting**

The Radom Raisting is the first commercial satellite earth station in Germany (Radom comes from RADar DOME). The station was built in 1963/64 by order of Deutsche Bundespost (German Federal Mail). Inside the air house (without any props or stiffeners) a parabolic antenna with 25 meters in diameter was used until 1985 for the intercontinental radio communication (telephone and TV) via communications satellites. The first experimental television broadcast was realized on 9 October 1964; the first regular transmission on January 20, 1965, on the occasion of the inauguration of re-elected US President Johnson. Today, the Radom is owned by the district of Weilheim-Schongau. In 1999, the Radom was included into the "list of monuments" and in 2007 was rated "of outstanding national importance". The antenna is fully functional even today and used in science projects.

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**In case of any question, please contact:**

**Christina Kahlert**

**INDOC INDUSTRIE- UND FERNSEHFILM GMBH**

Waldhornstrasse 4 | D-80997 München

Tel +49 89 811 46 19 | Fax +49 89 811 01 73

[www.indoc.de](http://www.indoc.de)

[christina.kahlert@indoc.de](mailto:christina.kahlert@indoc.de)