

SPACE COMMUNICATIONS AND NAVIGATION SYMPOSIUM (B2)  
Fixed and Broadcast Communications (6)

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## SATELLITE RADIO RECENT TECHNOLOGY ADVANCES IN NORTH AMERICA

**Abstract**

Satellite Radio has made constant progress with its service in North America, now having over 30 million subscribers. Several technical advances have recently been implemented and will be described in the paper. The first has been the completion of the satellite constellation with the successful launch of Sirius FM-6 on October 25th with subsequent in-orbit testing from Hawaii and operational performance drive tests on the United States east coast. A second has been the expansion of the provision of the satellite radio service through the internet including the ability of subscribers to receive it by mobile personal devices (e.g., smartphones). A third is the development, manufacture and distribution of an improved subscriber receiver chipset. Besides having more capability, the chipset is physically smaller, uses less power and radiates less heat. Lastly, some advances on “connected car” technology will be described.