

Dear FCC...

According to various government and media sources Hutchison Whampoa Limited, who, in partnership with Singapore Technologies Pte Ltd., is attempting to gain control of Global Crossing, has very close ties with the PRC's military. They are already in a position to exert a substantial amount of control over a highly significant strategic asset (the Panama Canal) and their potential for mischief has been remarked about but a number of observers.

There appear to be grounds to believe that, through corporate holdings, the PRC is attempting to acquire control/influence over assets that would enable them to exert a nontrivial influence in world affairs - even hostile. Many believe the pursuit of Global Crossing to be another example of their efforts in this pursuit.

Further, it is my understanding that Gary Winnick has acquired an ownership interest in either Singapore Technologies or a parent thereof and this would suggest that certain members of the current management of Global Crossing have a bias insofar as the ultimate ownership of the company is concerned and may not be as concerned about the strategic risks for the U.S. as one might hope. Also, following the bankruptcy, the management, who have to be recognized as the architects of the current financial situation the company is facing, will come out with an 8% ownership - over and above the Singapore connection.

I believe that allowing the transfer of the licenses currently held by Global Crossing to a NEW Global Crossing, which will be controlled (by virtue of the greater than 50% holdings of Hutchison Whampoa Limited and Singapore Technologies Pte Ltd.) by an entity with dubious ties to a potential adversary, represents an unnecessary security exposure (economic and military) for the United States and should not be permitted to happen. We have recently seen the kind of disruption that can occur when ill intentioned individuals attack the World Wide Web and every day that passes that potential grows - geometrically. In addition, it is my belief that Global Crossing also owns the world's largest facility for the maintenance of underwater cables - Global Marine. These facilities would permit tapping such cable assets as well as disrupting them.

There is too much at stake here. Let us make sure that this barn door is closed before the horse gets out!

Respectfully,
Mel Ponton