WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A radio communication system for transmitting data to a terrestrial node via a radio route having at least one system node comprising at least one of a plurality of stochastically distributed orbiting satellite nodes, each of a plurality of said satellite nodes including:

a plurality of antennas for receiving and transmitting radio signals in different directions;

route creation circuitry for receiving an initial routing message transmitted from the terrestrial node including address information identifying the terrestrial node and for transmitting further routing messages including the address information; and

a memory for storing the address information and an identity of the antenna on which the initial routing message was received,

wherein the route creation circuitry determines a quality of the received initial routing message, said quality indicating the suitability of the satellite for incorporation in a radio link for transmitting the data to the terrestrial node, and transmits on a plurality of the antennas further routing messages including the address information and the quality of the initial routing message.

2. A system as in claim 1, further comprising at least one first order satellite for receiving the initial routing message and for transmitting the further routing messages as first order routing messages, and at least one second order satellite for receiving one or more first order routing messages from at least one first order satellite and for transmitting on a plurality of antennas preferred first order routing messages, wherein:

the route creation circuitry of each second order satellite (i) determines the quality of each first order routing message received from a respective first order satellite and matches it with the quality of the initial routing message included in the associated first order routing message, and (ii) identifies the preferred first order routing message representing a first subroute from the second order satellite to the terrestrial node comprising a first radio link associated with the initial routing message and a second radio link associated with the corresponding first order routing

message, whereby both the first and second radio links associated with the preferred first order routing message have a higher quality than any first or second radio link associated with any other first order routing message received by the second order satellite; and

the address information, the identity of the antenna on which the preferred first order routing message was received, and the lower link quality as between the first and second radio links are stored in the memory of the second order satellite.

3. A system as in claim 2, further comprising at least one third order satellite for receiving one or more second routing messages transmitted on plural antennas of at least one second order satellite, the second order routing messages including the address information and the lower link quality, wherein:

the route creation circuitry of each third order satellite (i) determines the quality of each second order routing message received from a respective second order satellite and matches it with the lower link quality included in the associated second order routing message, and (ii) identifies a preferred second order routing message representing a second subroute from the third order satellite to the terrestrial node via a first order satellite, the second subroute comprising a third radio link between the third order satellite and the second order satellite associated with the preferred second order routing message, whereby all of the radio links associated with the preferred third order routing message have a higher quality than any first, second, or third radio link associated with any other received second order routing message; and

the identity of the antenna on which the preferred third order routing message was received and the address information are stored in the memory of the third order satellite.

4. A system as in claim 3, wherein subroutes including any radio link below a predetermined quality are eliminated.

5. A system as in claim 3, wherein the first, second, and third order satellites transmit on plural antennas announcement routing messages including the address information identifying the terrestrial node.

6. A system as in claim 2, wherein at least some of the satellites rotate.

7. A system as in claim 6, further comprising selectively energized electromagnets for interacting with the earth's magnetic field to create a moment on the satellites.

8. A system as in claim 2, wherein at least some of the satellites include attitude stabilization.

9. A system as in claim 8, wherein a plurality of the satellites includes attitude stabilization means including electromagnets selectively energized to align the satellites with the earth's magnetic field.

10. A system as in claim 1, wherein the antennas comprise parabolic reflectors, each consisting of plural feeds all of which are mounted at the periphery of the reflector, and the identities of the antennas stored in the memories of the first, second, and third order satellites comprise the identities of the respective satellite feeds.

11. A system as in claim 1, wherein the system nodes further include at least one of an unmanned aerial vehicle, a balloon, and a geostationary satellite.

12. A system as in claim 1, wherein the plurality of satellite nodes include a plurality of cohorts of satellites in orbits of different altitudes.

13. A radio communication system comprising a plurality system nodes a plurality of which include stochastically distributed orbiting satellites for transmitting data via one or more of the satellites to a destination satellite, each of a plurality of said satellites including:

a plurality of antennas for receiving and transmitting radio signals in different directions;

route creation circuitry for receiving an initial wide area routing message transmitted from an initial satellite including geolocation address information associated with the initial satellite and for transmitting further wide area routing messages including the address information; and

a memory for storing the geolocation address information and an identity of the antenna on which the initial wide area routing message was received,

wherein the route creation circuitry determines a quality of the received initial wide area routing message, said quality indicating the suitability of the satellite for incorporation in a radio link for transmitting the data to the initial satellite, and transmits on a plurality of the antennas further wide area routing messages including the geolocation address information and the quality of the initial wide area routing message.

14. A system as in claim 13, further comprising at least one first order wide area satellite for receiving the initial wide area routing message and for transmitting the further wide area routing messages as first order wide area routing messages, and at least one second order wide area satellite for receiving one or more first order routing messages from at least one first order wide area satellite and for transmitting on a plurality of antennas preferred first order wide area routing messages, wherein:

the route creation circuitry of each second order wide area satellite (i) determines the quality of each first order wide area routing message received from a respective first order wide area satellite and matches it with the quality of the initial wide area routing message included in the associated first order wide area routing message, and (ii) identifies the preferred first order wide area routing message representing a first wide area subroute from the second order wide area satellite to the initial satellite comprising a first wide area radio link associated with the initial wide area routing message and a second wide area radio link associated with the corresponding first order wide area routing message, whereby both the first and second wide area radio links associated with the preferred first order wide area routing message have a higher quality than any

first or second radio link associated with any other first order wide area routing message received by the second order wide area satellite; and

the geolocation address information, the identity of the antenna on which the preferred first order wide area routing message was received, and the lower link quality as between the first and second wide area radio links are stored in the memory of the second order wide area satellite.

15. A system as in claim 14, further comprising at least one third order wide area satellite for receiving one or more second wide area routing messages transmitted on plural antennas of at least one second order wide area satellite, the second order wide area routing messages including the geolocation address information and the lower link quality, wherein:

the route creation circuitry of each third order satellite (i) determines the quality of each second order wide area routing message received from a respective second order wide area satellite and matches it with the lower link quality included in the associated second order wide area routing message, and (ii) identifies a preferred second order wide area routing message representing a second subroute from the third order wide area satellite to the initial satellite node via a first order wide area satellite, the second subroute comprising a third radio link between the third order wide area satellite and the second order wide area satellite associated with the preferred second order wide area routing message, whereby all of the radio links associated with the preferred third order wide area routing message have a higher quality than any first, second, or third radio link associated with any other received second order wide area routing message; and

the identity of the antenna on which the preferred third order wide area routing message was received and the geolocation address information are stored in the memory of the third order wide area satellite.

16. A system as in claim 15, wherein subroutes including any radio link below a predetermined quality are eliminated.

17. A system as in claim 15, wherein at least some of the satellites rotate.

18. A system as in claim 17, further comprising selectively energized electromagnets for interacting with the earth's magnetic field to create a moment on the satellites.

19. A system as in claim 14, wherein at least some of the satellites include attitude stabilization.

20. A system as in claim 19, wherein a plurality of the satellites includes attitude stabilization means including electromagnets selectively energized to align the satellites with the earth's magnetic field.

21. A system as in claim 13, wherein the antennas comprise parabolic reflectors, each consisting of plural feeds all of which are mounted at the periphery of the reflector, and the identities of the antennas stored in the memories of the first, second, and third order wide area satellites comprise the identities of the respective satellite feeds.

22. A system as in claim 13, wherein the system nodes further include at least one of an unmanned aerial vehicle, a balloon, and a geostationary satellite.

23. A system as in claim 13, wherein the plurality of satellite nodes include a plurality of cohorts of satellites in orbits of different altitudes.

24. A method of transmitting data to a destination terrestrial node via at least one of a plurality of stochastically distributed orbiting satellites, the terrestrial node having a unique terrestrial address associated with its geolocation and at least one antenna for receiving data transmissions, wherein each satellite comprises a plurality of antennas for receiving and transmitting radio signals in different directions to form radio links on respective paired antennas of the satellites and data transmission circuitry for transmitting data on at least one of the plurality of antennas, the method comprising:

(a) receiving on a satellite antenna a data transmission with destination information including the terrestrial address of the destination terrestrial node;

(b) determining if a memory in the receiving satellite has stored an identity uniquely associated with an antenna of the receiving satellite paired with the destination terrestrial node antenna;

(c) if the answer in step (b) is yes, transmitting the data using the antenna whose identity is stored in the receiving satellite's memory;

(d) if the answer in step (c) is no, determining if the receiving satellite memory has stored a unique identity of an antenna paired with an antenna of another satellite whose memory has stored the terrestrial address of the destination terrestrial node;

(e) if the answer in step (d) is yes, transmitting the data using the antenna whose identity is stored in the receiving satellite's memory; and

(f) transmitting the data to the destination terrestrial node from the satellite whose memory has stored the identity of the antenna paired with the antenna of the destination terrestrial node.

25. A method as in claim 24, wherein the antenna whose identity is stored in the memory of the other satellite is paired with an antenna in an additional satellite whose memory has stored the identity of the antenna paired with the antenna of the destination terrestrial node.

26. A method as in claim 24, wherein the orbiting satellites traverse a predetermined swath of the earth's surface with at least a portion of the swath of the earth's surface being divided into a plurality of zones, each satellite stores zone address information indicative of the geographic boundaries of the zones, and the unique terrestrial address includes zone address information indicating the zone in which the destination node is located, the method further comprising:

(g) if the answer in step (b) is no, determining if a memory in the receiving satellite has stored the identity of an antenna of the receiving satellite paired with an antenna of a wide area satellite with a memory that has stored the zone address information; and

(h) if the answer in step (g) is yes, transmitting the data using the antenna whose identity is stored in the receiving satellite; and

(i) repeating steps (a) through (h) by treating the wide area satellite as the receiving satellite in each said step.

27. A method as in claim 26, further comprising:

(j) if the answer in step (h) is no, transmitting the data using at least one antenna of the receiving satellite pointing in the direction of the zone of the destination node;

(k) determining if the receiving satellite has received a return acknowledgement message from another satellite that received the data transmission; and

(l) if the answer to step (k) is no, repeating steps (a) to (k).

28. A satellite-based distributed ledger system for spreading to a plurality of at least 20 stochastically distributed orbiting satellites a data communication received by at least one of the satellites from a ground station, each of said satellites including:

a plurality of antennas for receiving and transmitting radio signals in different directions;

a memory for storing data communications received on the antennas;

a GNSS module for cooperating with a Global Navigation Satellite System to provide a common clock for all of the satellites; and

a data movement module for transmitting all of the stored data communications on substantially all of the antennas of each of a plurality of satellites during a unique time slot in which none of the other satellites transmits a data communication.

29. A system as in claim 28, wherein:

the GNSS module determines the geolocation of the satellite;

the satellite memory stores the geolocation of a plurality of ground stations; and

the data movement module transmits the data communication to a ground station with a geolocation stored in the satellite memory when the satellite is in the line of sight of the ground station.

30. A system as in claim 28, comprising at least 200 satellites, wherein the time slots are about 0.10 second in duration.

31. A ground station in a radio communication system for transmitting data between different terrestrial locations via a plurality of stochastically distributed orbiting satellites traversing at least a portion of the earth's surface divided into a plurality of zones having unique zone identifiers, the ground station comprising a plurality of antennas for simultaneously transmitting plural routing messages in multiple directions, said routing messages including address information including the zone identifier indicating the zone in which the ground station is located.

32. A radio communication system for transmitting data to a terrestrial node via a radio route including plural radio links for transmitting the data between pairs of said satellites in a constellation of plural stochastically distributed orbiting satellites traversing at least a portion of the earth's surface divided into a plurality of zones having unique zone identifiers, wherein the terrestrial node has a unique address identifying itself and the zone in which it is located, and each satellite includes a plurality of antennas for receiving and transmitting radio signals in different directions, the system comprising:

at least one local area network including at least one satellite, wherein a first satellite in the local area network stores the identity of an antenna paired with an antenna of the terrestrial node to form a radio link for transmitting the data to the terrestrial node, and any other satellite in the local area network stores the unique address of the terrestrial node and the identity of an antenna

paired with an antenna in another satellite that has stored the unique address of the terrestrial node; and

a wide area network including at least one satellite, wherein every satellite in the wide area network stores the identity of an antenna paired with an antenna of another satellite that has stored the zone identifier associated with the terrestrial node to form at least one inter-satellite radio link for transmitting the data toward the zone in which the terrestrial node is located.

33. A system as in claim 32, wherein any satellite in the constellation that has onboard data addressed to the terrestrial node and is not in a local area network or a wide area network transmits the data on one or more of its antennas toward the zone where the terrestrial node is located.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A radio communication system for transmitting data to a terrestrial node via a radio route comprising at least two orbiting satellites in a constellation of multiple satellites, each of a plurality of said satellite nodes including:

a plurality of antennas for receiving and transmitting radio signals in different directions;

route creation circuitry for receiving routing messages transmitted from other nodes and for transmitting routing messages to other nodes; and

a memory for storing identities of the antennas on which respective routing messages are received, wherein:

the route creation circuitry of a first order satellite determines a value of a first parameter associated with of an initial routing message received from the terrestrial node,

said value of said first parameter indicates the suitability of a radio link including the first order satellite as a node in a radio route for transmitting the data to the terrestrial node,

the route creation circuitry of said first order satellite transmits on a plurality of said antennas first order routing messages including address information identifying the terrestrial node and the value of the first parameter associated with the initial routing message, and

the route creation circuitry of at least one second order satellite determines a value of a second parameter associated with each first order routing message received from a respective first order satellite, said value of said second parameter indicating the suitability of a radio link including the second order satellite as a node in a radio route for transmitting the data to the respective first order satellite.

2. A system as in claim 1, wherein:

the route creation circuitry of at least one second order satellite identifies a first order routing message representing a preferred radio route from the second order satellite to the terrestrial node identified in the initial routing message, the preferred radio route comprising a first radio link having a value corresponding to the value of the first parameter and a second radio link having a value corresponding to the value of the second parameter, whereby both said first and second radio links have a higher value than the value of any first or second radio link of any other radio route from a particular second order satellite to the terrestrial node,

the memory of the first order satellite in the preferred radio route stores the address information and the antenna that received the initial routing message associated with the preferred radio route, and

the memory of the second order satellite in the preferred radio route stores the address information, the identity of the antenna that received the first order routing message associated with the preferred radio route, and the lower link value as between the first and second radio links in the preferred radio route.

3. A system as in claim 2, wherein:

a plurality of said second order satellites included in a preferred radio route transmit on plural antennas second order routing messages including the address information and the lower link value in the preferred radio route,

the route creation circuitry of at least one third order satellite (i) determines a value of a third parameter associated with a corresponding second order routing message received from a respective second order satellite and matches it with the lower link value included in said second order routing message, and (ii) identifies a second order routing message representing a preferred radio route from the third order satellite via a first order satellite to the terrestrial node identified in the initial routing message, the preferred radio route comprising a third radio link between the third order satellite and the second order satellite associated with the corresponding second order routing message, the third radio link having a value corresponding to the value of the third parameter, whereby all of the radio links associated with the preferred radio route have a higher value than any first, second, or third radio link associated with any other radio route from a particular third order satellite to the terrestrial node, and

the memory of the third order satellite stores the identity of the antenna that received the second order routing message associated with the preferred radio route and the address information.

4. A system as in claim 2, wherein the values of the radio links in the preferred radio route exceed a predetermined minimum.

5. A system as in claim 3, wherein the route creation circuitry of said first order satellites and the route creation circuitry of said second and third order satellites in said preferred radio routes transmit on plural antennas announcement routing messages including the address information identifying the terrestrial node.

6. A system as in claim 1, wherein at least some of the satellites rotate.

7. A system as in claim 1, wherein at least some of the satellites further include selectively energized electromagnets for interacting with the earth's magnetic field to create a moment on the satellites.

8. A system as in claim 1, wherein at least some of the satellites include attitude stabilization.

9. A system as in claim 1, wherein at least some of the satellites include attitude stabilization means including electromagnets selectively energized to align the satellites with the earth's magnetic field.

10. A system as in claim 3, wherein the antennas comprise parabolic reflectors, each consisting of plural feeds all of which are mounted at the periphery of the reflector, and the identities of the antennas stored in the memories of the first, second, and third order satellites comprise the identities of the respective satellite feeds.

11. A system as in claim 1, wherein the system nodes further include at least one of an unmanned aerial vehicle, a balloon, and a geostationary satellite.

12. A system as in claim 1, wherein the plurality of satellite nodes include a plurality of cohorts of satellites in orbits of different altitudes.

13. A radio communication system comprising a plurality of system nodes including multiple orbiting satellites for transmitting data to a destination satellite via one or more of the other satellites, each of a plurality of said satellites including:

a plurality of antennas for receiving and transmitting radio signals in different directions;

route creation circuitry for receiving wide area routing messages transmitted from other satellites and for transmitting wide area routing messages to other satellites; and

a memory for storing identities of the antennas on which respective wide area routing messages are received, wherein:

the route creation circuitry of a first order wide area satellite determines a value of a first parameter associated with an initial wide area routing message received from the destination satellite,

said value of said first parameter indicates the suitability of a radio link including the first order wide area satellite as a node in a wide area radio route for transmitting the data to the destination satellite,

the route creation circuitry of the first order wide area satellite transmits on a plurality of said antennas first order wide area routing messages including address information identifying the destination satellite and the value of the first parameter associated with the initial wide area routing message, and

the route creation circuitry of at least one second order wide area satellite determines a value of a second parameter associated with each first order routing message received from a respective first order satellite, said value of said second parameter indicating the suitability of a radio link including the second order wide area satellite as a node in a wide area radio route for transmitting the data to the respective first order wide area satellite.

14. A system as in claim 13, wherein:

the route creation circuitry of each second order wide area satellite identifies a first order wide area routing message representing a preferred wide area radio route from the second order wide area satellite to the destination satellite comprising a first wide area radio link having a value corresponding to the value of the first parameter and a second wide area radio link having a value corresponding to the value of the second parameter, whereby both said first and second wide area radio links have a higher value than the value of any other first or second wide area radio link from a particular second order wide area satellite to the destination satellite, and

the memory of the second wide area satellite in the preferred wide area radio route stores the address information, the identity of the antenna that received the first order wide area routing message associated with the preferred wide area radio route, and the lower link value as between the first and second wide area radio links.

15. A system as in claim 14, further comprising at least one third order wide area satellite for receiving one or more second wide area routing messages transmitted on plural antennas of at least one second order wide area satellite in the preferred wide area radio route, wherein:

the route creation circuitry of at least one said third order wide area satellite (i) determines a value of a third parameter associated with a corresponding second order wide area routing message received from a respective second order wide area satellite and matches it with the lower link value included in said second order wide area routing message, and (ii) identifies a second order wide area routing message representing a preferred radio route from the third order wide area satellite via a first order wide area satellite to the destination satellite identified in the initial wide area routing message the preferred wide area radio route comprising a third wide area radio link between the third order wide area satellite and the second order wide area satellite associated with the corresponding second order wide area routing message, the third wide area radio link having value corresponding to the value of the third parameter, whereby all of the wide area radio links associated with the preferred radio route have a higher value than any first,

second, or third wide area radio link associated with any other radio route from a particular wide area third order satellite, and

the memory of the third order wide area satellite stores the identity of the antenna that received the second order wide area routing message associated with the preferred wide area radio route and the address information.

16. A system as in claim 14, wherein the values of the wide area radio links in the preferred wide area radio route exceed a predetermined minimum.

17. A system as in claim 13, wherein at least some of the satellites rotate.

18. A system as in claim 13, wherein at least some of the satellites further include selectively energized electromagnets for interacting with the earth's magnetic field to create a moment on the satellites.

19. A system as in claim 13, wherein at least some of the satellites include attitude stabilization.

20. A system as in claim 13, wherein at least some of the satellites includes attitude stabilization means including electromagnets selectively energized to align the satellites with the earth's magnetic field.

21. A system as in claim 15, wherein the antennas comprise parabolic reflectors, each consisting of plural feeds all of which are mounted at the periphery of the reflector, and the identities of the antennas stored in the memories of the first, second, and third order wide area satellites comprise the identities of the respective satellite feeds.

22. A system as in claim 13, wherein the system nodes further include at least one of an unmanned aerial vehicle, a balloon, and a geostationary satellite.

23. A system as in claim 13, wherein the plurality of satellite nodes include a plurality of cohorts of satellites in orbits of different altitudes.

24. A method of transmitting data to a destination terrestrial node using the system described in claim 1, via at least one of a plurality of stochastically distributed orbiting satellites, the terrestrial node having a unique terrestrial address associated with its geolocation and at least one antenna for receiving data transmissions, wherein each satellite comprises a plurality of antennas for receiving and transmitting radio signals in different directions to form radio links on respective paired antennas of the satellites and data transmission

circuitry for transmitting data on at least one of the plurality of antennas, the method comprising:

(a) receiving on a satellite antenna a data transmission with destination information including the terrestrial address of the destination terrestrial node;

(b) determining if a memory in the receiving satellite has stored an identity uniquely associated with an antenna of the receiving satellite paired with the destination terrestrial node antenna;

(c) if the answer in step (b) is yes, transmitting the data using the antenna whose identity is stored in the receiving satellite's memory;

(d) if the answer in step (c) is no, determining if the receiving satellite memory has stored a unique identity of an antenna paired with an antenna of another satellite whose memory has stored the terrestrial address of the destination terrestrial node;

(e) if the answer in step (d) is yes, transmitting the data using the antenna whose identity is stored in the receiving satellite's memory; and

(f) transmitting the data to the destination terrestrial node from the satellite whose memory has stored the identity of the antenna paired with the antenna of the destination terrestrial node.

25. A method as in claim 24, wherein the antenna whose identity is stored in the memory of the other satellite is paired with an antenna in an additional satellite whose memory has stored the identity of the antenna paired with the antenna of the destination terrestrial node.

26. A method as in claim 24, wherein the orbiting satellites traverse a predetermined swath of the earth's surface with at least a portion of the swath of the earth's surface being divided into a plurality of zones, each satellite stores zone address information indicative of the geographic boundaries of the zones, and the unique terrestrial address includes zone address information indicating the zone in which the destination node is located, the method further comprising:

(g) if the answer in step (b) is no, determining if a memory in the receiving satellite has stored the identity of an antenna of the receiving satellite paired with an antenna of a wide area satellite with a memory that has stored the zone address information; and

(h) if the answer in step (g) is yes, transmitting the data using the antenna whose identity is stored in the receiving satellite; and

(i) repeating steps (a) through (h) by treating the wide area satellite as the receiving satellite in each said step.

27. A method as in claim 26, further comprising:

(j) if the answer in step (h) is no, transmitting the data using at least one antenna of the receiving satellite pointing in the direction of the zone of the destination node;

(k) determining if the receiving satellite has received a return acknowledgement message from another satellite that received the data transmission; and

(l) if the answer to step (k) is no, repeating steps (a) to (k).

28. A system as in claim 1, wherein a plurality of the satellites are in stochastically distributed orbits.

29. A system as in claim 1, wherein each of the first parameter and the second parameter comprises at least one of signal strength and error coding data.

30. A system as in claim 29, wherein said first and second parameters both relate to the same property of the first and second routing messages.

31. A system as in claim 1, wherein the earth's surface visible to the satellites in the constellation is divided into a predetermined number of zones, and the address information associated with the terrestrial node includes a zone identifier and a unique node identifier.

32. A system as in claim 1, wherein the antennas in the satellites have substantially the same configuration.

33. A system as in claim 2, wherein the first and second order routing messages are transmitted in different time slots.

34. A system as in claim 3, wherein the value of all of the radio links in the preferred radio route exceed a predetermined minimum.

35. A system as in claim 13, wherein a plurality of the satellites are in stochastically distributed orbits.

36. A system as in claim 13, wherein each of the first parameter and the second parameter comprises at least one of signal strength and error coding data.

37. A system as in claim 36, wherein said first and second parameters both relate to the same property of the first and second wide area routing messages.

38. A system as in claim 13, wherein the address information of the satellites includes a satellite geolocation and the wide area routing messages include the geolocation of the satellite transmitting said routing message.

39. A system as in claim 13, wherein the antennas in the satellites have substantially the same configuration.

40. A system as in claim 13, wherein the first and second order wide area routing messages are transmitted in different time slots.

41. A system as in claim 15, wherein the value of all of the wide area radio links in the preferred radio route exceed a predetermined minimum.

42. A radio communication system for transmitting data to a destination terrestrial node via a radio route comprising at least two orbiting satellites in a constellation of multiple satellites, each of a plurality of said satellites including:

a plurality of antennas for receiving and transmitting radio signals in different directions;

route creation circuitry for receiving routing messages transmitted from at least two other satellites, said routing messages including address information associated with the destination terrestrial node, and for determining a value of a parameter associated with each said routing message received from the other satellites, wherein said values indicate the comparative suitability for data transmission of radio links between the satellite receiving the routing messages and each of the respective satellites transmitting the routing messages, and wherein the route creation circuitry selects a radio link by comparing the values of the parameters associated with each received routing message and transmits on plural said antennas a further routing message including a value associated with the selected radio link and the address information.

43. A system as in claim 42, wherein the selected radio link comprises a link in a preferred radio route to the destination terrestrial node.