

Abstracts

The IRIDIUM/sup TM/SM/ Communications System

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The goal of the IRIDIUM/sup TM/ System is to make instant global communications a reality. At first thought, it would seem that we already have global communications. From the U. S., we can place calls to a vast number of domestic and international locations. However, there are many areas without telephone service, not only in emerging countries, but in developed nations as well. Consider that in Russia, with a population of 250 million, there are only 10 million telephones. In India, there are tens of thousands of villages without telephone service. There are some countries whose telephone system is so archaic that thunderstorms routinely disrupt service; some countries have service within their boundaries, yet lack the capability of international calling. Our mission of world-wide, world-class communications is decidedly a reach-out goal.

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