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**TETRA World
Congress Issue**

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Inside

**Europe Pushes for
Broadband Spectrum**

**A TETRA and
DMR Comparison**

**3 Critical Steps
to Frequency Planning**



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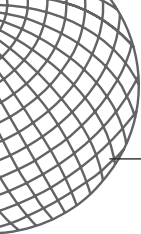


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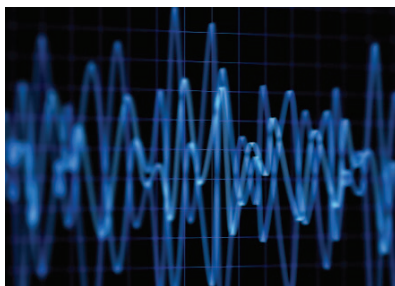


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TETRA's Final Frontier

Putting together the TETRA World Congress issue is one of my annual favorites. This year's issue was especially exciting because I'll be attending the 2010 congress in Singapore in May. I'm looking forward to visiting Singapore; I haven't been to the city-state since 1997 when I attended the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Asia Telecom conference and exhibition.



Interestingly, I wrote in the Quarter 4 1997 issue of *RadioResource International* about a cooperative agreement between the U.S. Project 25 (P25) steering committee and the TETRA committee within the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI) to "provide free information exchange between P25 and TETRA. The possibility of the two standards enjoying future compatibility would benefit users worldwide."

Unfortunately, that compatibility promise hasn't come to fruition. In fact, the two digital public-safety communications standards compete head to head worldwide. TETRA technology, which is deployed in nearly every country around the globe, dominates the European market, and P25 is the leading public-safety standard deployed in the United States. While the TETRA Association continues to push for TETRA's deployment in the U.S. market, several roadblocks still stand in the way. However, one TETRA vendor's base station has been type accepted by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), the U.S. telecom regulatory agency, and Industry Canada, its Canadian counterpart. Industry Canada also recently certified two TETRA portable radios.

Even if U.S. users begin to deploy TETRA systems, they will likely be in non-public-safety sectors. Transportation agencies, utilities and railroads are the main vertical markets being targeted for the standard in the United States. And the likelihood of compatibility between those TETRA networks and the country's P25 public-safety systems is doubtful at best.

However, each standard is moving forward with interoperability initiatives among vendors to ensure one manufacturer's equipment works seamlessly with another vendor's

products. Two emerging digital standards — Digital Mobile Radio (DMR) and NXDN — have announced interoperability testing plans as well (see "World News" on Page 16). Ensuring interoperability among vendors is a critical step for all digital mobile radio standards.

If you're attending this year's TETRA World Congress, please visit us at Stand H601. We would enjoy meeting you in person and getting your feedback on the magazine and our digital products.

Sandra Wendelken, Editor
swendelken@RRMediaGroup.com

We value your opinions! Please e-mail your feedback to me at swendelken@RRMediaGroup.com.

RadioResource International delivers wireless voice and data information for mobile and remote mission-critical operations for professionals who reside or do business outside the United States and Canada. The magazine covers private and trunked mobile radio, wireless data, location technologies, public safety communications, microwave radio, satellite, paging/messaging, remote monitoring, and other wireless applications. Editorial content is international in scope and encompasses emerging technologies, industry reports and trends, innovative applications, product information and comparisons, news, standards, and troubleshooting tips.

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EUROPE

Finland's VIRVE to Begin TEDS Trials in May

State Security Networks, operator of the Finnish VIRVE network, will start testing the TETRA Enhanced Data Service (TEDS) in May with EADS Defence & Security. The work will be conducted on a test network with the same characteristics as the live VIRVE authority network, apart from the TEDS-capable software.

TEDS is the high-speed data evolution of the TETRA digital radio standard. EADS Defence & Security was the first vendor to demonstrate TEDS in June 2007 and has continued to develop the software to run the system on existing EADS TETRA hardware, as well as to develop TEDS-capable TETRA radios. System elements and trial terminals for the VIRVE test network will be

delivered during April and May.

"Public authorities need high-speed data capabilities in their radio communications networks to enhance their field operations," said Dirk Borchardt, EADS Defence & Security head of security and communications solutions. "They also need high-speed data to be reliable, secure and available over a wide area. TEDS can meet these strict requirements."

All findings contribute to further design improvements of the EADS TETRA system and TETRA radio terminals, Borchardt said. Company officials can verify the data speeds, determine the actual data capacity increase that TEDS can deliver at short notice, and evaluate TEDS coverage.

"High-speed data is the natural next



VIRVE public-safety users

step," said Kimmo Manni, CEO of State Security Networks. "Our goal is to have a large number of organizations and users testing the new high-speed data functions in action. The testers will have the benefit of using their experience as a basis for developing new operational processes and working methods."

COLOGNE, Germany — The Ninth Branch Meeting for Professional Mobile Radio (PMR) and Command Centers 2009 conference and exhibition registered 2,519 square meters of exhibit space and 2,629 visitors 24 – 26 November in Cologne, Germany.

With 169 exhibitors from 14 countries, the numbers from 2008 were exceeded, conference staff said. The size of the exhibit space increased to more than 155.5 percent compared with 2008. The number of visitors increased by 31.45 percent to 2,629 in 2009. The 2010 PMRExpo will be held 23 – 25 November.

ZURICH, Switzerland —

Starhome, a provider of roaming services for mobile network operators, is participating in the CELTIC Federated Test bed for Public-Safety Communications (FT-PSC) consortium. The project is focused on public safety and disaster management and includes developing communications among national operators during emergencies. The TETRA Association and other organizations are participating as well.

The FT-PSC project is addressing the lack of existing public-safety communications and information systems

Wind Farm Deploys TETRA

Alpha Ventus' 12 wind turbines and offshore transformer station make up the first wind farm to be erected at sea under offshore conditions. EWE TEL built the phone and digital communications technology for the entire wind park and selected 3T Communications for the digital radio system.

Sepura secured the contract to supply TETRA radios to Alpha Ventus, located 45 kilometers north of the island of Borkum, Germany, in water about 30 meters deep. The new digital radio solution covers the offshore platform, the 12 wind turbines and the operations center in Norden, Germany. It will enable GPS localization and will also be used for communications with helicopters.

3T Communications supplied two base stations, switch, gateway, dispatcher and Sepura radios. Base stations are installed on the platform and on the ground in Norden.

Sepura will supply hand-portable and

interoperability and the effect it has on response times during emergency situations. Establishing direct roaming relations among national operators is



The Alpha Ventus offshore wind farm

mobile radios for use offshore and on land and to maintain communications with the helicopters. Sepura mobile radios will also be installed on ships servicing the wind farm.

"Installation and maintenance of wind farms' equipment requires a powerful and reliable digital radio system," said Holger Witt, project manager from EWE TEL. "The North Sea environment can be extremely tough and demanding, and both infrastructure and terminals must meet the highest standards at all levels, from ease of use to durability and performance."

problematic, because competitive operators do not have bilateral roaming relations. However, in an emergency, if one network crashes or does not

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World News

have coverage in an area, other networks should provide backup. The Starhome Roaming Broker solution for new-generation networks will be developed in the project as an alternative to bilateral operator roaming agreements.

CELTIC is a European research and development (R&D) program that initiates and runs privately and publicly funded information and communication technology (ICT)/R&D projects. The FT-PSC project will allow European telecom manufacturers and software providers to test their products, results of R&D projects in international environments with participation of public-safety users. The test bed will use heterogeneous communications networks based on several standards such as GPRS, UMTS, wireless LAN (WLAN), WiMAX, TETRA, Tetrapol and Project 25 (P25) technologies.

MADRID — Spanish Group **Radio-trans** was awarded an international 10 million euro (US\$15.1 million) public tender by the European Union (EU) for the supply, installation and maintenance of communications equipment and systems for the Delegations of its External Services Worldwide.

During the four-year contract, services will be delivered to more than 130 embassies of the EU around the world. Radiotrans will supply, install and maintain the EU delegations' radio communications equipment.

The European Commission External Service provides services to European citizens outside the EU for a worldwide diplomatic network.

LONDON — **Ford Motor** developed a new demonstrator featuring **Microbus** technology to provide a police-specification mobile-data and traffic-enforcement-ready vehicle.

Ford's Mondeo Estate car has a Microbus M-PC2 vehicle computer with a high-brightness touchscreen installed into the dashboard, allowing officers access to a suite of applications. Among the features are Microbus' digital video recording systems that use two Microbus ANPR cameras. The computer also drives a light bar and siren interface, stolen vehicle recovery application, and offers access to PNC and other databases.

The car will be available for demonstration throughout 2010 and will appear at various trade events.

SÃO PAULO, Brazil — CPTM selected **Tait Radio Communications** to supply a 16-site digital Project 25 (P25) conventional network. The network will consist of base stations to provide coverage to CPTM platforms and rail lines, mobiles for

EXPERIENCE IN

ConnectTel has a vast experience in implementing TETRA systems for industrial, Public Safety, military and public transportation customers. Amongst the projects carried out successfully by ConnectTel are the Prague Public Transportation Department, the City of Bratislava and the Prague International Airport. All these customers rely in their day to day communication on TETRA systems supplied by ConnectTel. Customized applications like onboard information systems on trams and buses provide further benefit to the passengers.

ConnectTel is an authorized Motorola distributor with over 20 years of know-how in the design, distribution and service of different type of radio communication systems. Ranging from basic analog to digital trunking systems, ConnectTel provides consulting for customers throughout Central and Eastern Europe, the Baltics, Russia, Africa, and the Middle East.

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World News

LATIN AMERICA/CARIBBEAN

Groups Scramble to Restore Emergency Communications in Haiti

By Michelle Zilis

Companies and organizations scrambled to re-establish emergency communications following recent devastating earthquakes.

On 12 January, a 7.0 earthquake devastated Haiti. The lack of communications jeopardized all aid efforts as workers struggled to find ways to communicate with each other, as well as other agencies. The quake shut down most radio communications and phone services. Before the quake, the impoverished nation had limited public-safety radio communications and only 108,000 fixed wirelines. The international community has been working to repair the systems, for the short and long terms.

Most nongovernment organizations

(NGOs) and relief workers initially relied on satellite services to communicate.

Restoration of voice communications, including radio communications, Internet and power supplies, is ongoing, said Cosmas Zavazava, chief of division, emergency telecommunications, International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

ITU deployed broadband satellite terminals with GPS capability for use in search and rescue, coordinating logistics, telemedicine and establishing public calling offices. ITU is also providing support to assess telecommunications network disruption and damage with the aim of rehabilitating those networks, Zavazava said.

"In the aftermath of the disaster, ITU will help Haiti plan and implement informa-

tion and communication technologies (ICT) projects leading to the establishment of state-of-the-art communications networks," Zavazava said.

Much of the public-safety efforts, including the U.S. Marines and the government search-and-rescue crews, operated on their own communications networks.

Ray Vaughan, a communications specialist for the urban search and rescue (US&R) Florida Task Force 1, said the force brought its own old two-way equipment, including repeaters and radios. In an Internet discussion forum, Vaughan said many of the NGOs and organizations coming to help don't have the budgets for their own communications systems and asked for donations.



Workers survey damage in Haiti

Photo courtesy ITU

Several radio communications companies helped with the relief efforts. Kenwood USA donated amateur radios to the ARRL, the national association for amateur radio. Icom America donated more than 150 communications equipment units from the marine, aviation and amateur divisions to be distributed through Mentone Communications Education Association.

Inmarsat and SkyTerra announced a joint initiative to provide relief organizations with enhanced access to mobile voice and broadband data services. Inmarsat works with many NGOs, humanitarian groups and emergency responders operating in Haiti, including TSF, World-Vision and NetHope.

Separately, the ITU deployed 25 satellite terminals to help restore vital communications links in the aftermath of the massive 8.8-magnitude earthquake and tsunami that hit Chile 27 February, killing more than 700 people and cutting com-

munications links in the city of Concepción and towns along the coast.

ITU worked with Iridium Communications to ensure connectivity for satellite handsets, which will be used by local authorities to facilitate humanitarian assistance to disaster victims. ITU's area office in Santiago provided expert on-the-ground support to local authorities, as well as to the local United Nations (UN) operations center, to coordinate the restoration of damaged communications systems and manage spectrum requirements for the wireless systems used by humanitarian agencies.

"Communications networks were disrupted by this massive earthquake, hampering rescue operations and the delivery of essential logistics and services," said Sami Al Basheer Al Morshid, director of the ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau. "Our assistance will contribute toward the bridging of the current communications gap."

installation into CPTM trains and vehicles, and portables for CPTM personnel.

CPTM is responsible for the transportation of nearly 2 million metropolitan São Paulo commuters every day. The state government allocated US\$12 billion to improve and extend the metropolitan rail network. The expansion will include the purchase of new trains, the modernization of railway stations, an upgrade of the signaling and telecommunications system, and an extension of railway lines to make the network four times bigger.

The platform's base stations will be configured to directly connect with a Zetron console system via an analog interface. Tait and Grupo MPE will integrate a new signaling and telecommunications system to reduce passenger travel time and the intervals between trains from six minutes to three minutes.



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World News

BRISBANE, Australia — Zetron's dispatch system was recently deployed for the Queensland Police Service (QPS) in Queensland, Australia, at the new North Coast Region Police Communication Center in Maroochydore. The 35-position system provides integrated radio dispatch and emergency call-handling for the region's rapidly growing Sunshine Coast.

This system is the fourth Zetron system to be deployed for the QPS in recent months. Others were installed in QPS communication centers at Cairns, Townsville and Rockhampton.

SAN DIEGO — Tachyon Networks announced a new fixed and mobile broadband satellite communications service for Southwest Asia, including Afghanistan. The solution includes high-power capacity, ground-based infrastructure, ultra-small aperture terminal (USAT) equipment and

ASIA

New Delhi Deploys TETRA Network for Commonwealth Games

HCL Infosystems, an Indian systems integration company, in partnership with Motorola, announced a US\$21 million project from the Delhi Government to establish the country's first exclusive government radio network. The TETRA network will facilitate communications among various government agencies including the Delhi police, fire services, hospitals, public works department and the Delhi Transport during the 2010 Commonwealth Games in October and beyond.

"The deployment of the government radio network based on TETRA will not only enhance our communications infrastructure but will also place New Delhi among the leading cities of the world," said Savitir Prasad, secretary of information technology for the Delhi Government.

The network will cover the entire metropolitan area of the capital, including transportation networks, such as Delhi Metro Railway tunnels and New Delhi Airport Terminal-II. The network was designed to minimize the public-safety reaction time, ensuring minimal call drops and encrypted communications to maintain the highest levels of security.

The digital interoperable communications platform will operate on secured spectrum and will have 46 base stations. Communications on the GRN is encrypted, and the network is specially designed to ensure failsafe performance even during emergencies. The network will help multiple agencies collaborate over a single platform to ensure well-coordinated optimum response.



Midian's NEW Voice Scrambler

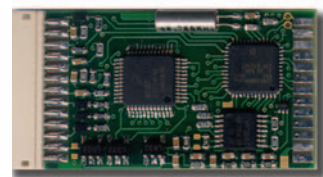
Midian's new VS-1200 is a DSP based FFT Frequency Domain voice scrambler offering a high level of voice security. This technology is comparable in security to rolling code scrambling, but doesn't require synchronization.

This type of encryption and the lack of synchronization result in excellent audio quality, high security and enable the VS-1200 to be used in virtually any type of radio system. These systems include Conventional two-way, HF SSB, Trunking, and Voting.

The VS-1000 (inversion scrambler) and VS-1050 (inversion scrambler with ANI) are also available.

Benefits of the VS-1200 include:

- 3 user-programmable levels of security
- No synchronization
- Programmable gain controls for audio levels
- ANI in Motorola's MDC-1200, Kenwood's FleetSync, DTMF, 5-Tone & Harris' G-Star
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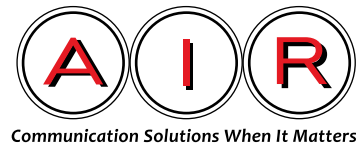
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managed network services operating in its Ku-band beams, achieving mobile data rates of 512 kilobits per second (kbps) moving to 2.8 Megabits per second (Mbps).

The service is targeted at communications on the move (COTM) in Southwest Asia and is suited to aeronautical broadband applications, such as high-definition full-motion video.

CHENNAI, India — Raytheon was awarded a contract by the Airports Authority of India to automate air traffic control services at the Chennai International Airport.

Raytheon will install its air traffic management system to help reduce delays in aircraft arrival and departure. The new system will also have real-time meteorological information to assist air traffic controllers in adjusting to changing weather conditions.

Raytheon is also upgrading air traffic management systems at the Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport in Mumbai and at the Indira Gandhi International Airport in New Delhi.

MIDDLE EAST

BERLIN — EADS Defence & Security was awarded a contract by Germany's Federal Office for Information Management and Information Technology of the Bundeswehr (IT-AmtBw) to set up a nationwide Tetrapol radio network in Djibouti. This contract is an extension of the Tetrapol radio network installed by EADS for the police in Djibouti City as part of the German government's equipment support program in 2008.

The new contract will enable the police forces in Djibouti to carry out nationwide operations beginning in late 2010. The communications network comprises a central switching system linked to three base stations distributed across the country and connected via radio relay systems. Depending on topology and the required radio coverage, other locations will be equipped with independent digital repeaters (IDRs)

Motorola to Form 2 Companies

Motorola's mission-critical communications business will be a separate company by early next year under a plan announced by the company. Motorola is targeting the first quarter of 2011 for a planned separation into two independent, publicly traded companies.

One will include the company's mobile devices and home businesses, and the other will include its enterprise mobility solutions and networks businesses, which includes two-way radios and associated equipment.

Greg Brown, co-CEO of Motorola, will be CEO of Motorola's enterprise mobility solutions and networks businesses. This business will offer an end-to-end portfolio of products and solutions, including rugged two-way radios, mobile computers, secure public-safety systems, scanning, radio frequency identification (RFID) and wireless network infrastructure.

Dr. Sanjay Jha, co-CEO, will be CEO of Motorola's mobile devices and home businesses. This business will offer a portfolio of mobile converged devices, home digital entertainment devices, and video, voice and data solutions.

Following the separation, both entities

will use the Motorola brand. The mobile devices and home business is expected to own the Motorola brand and license it royalty free to the enterprise mobility solutions and networks business. Additional details regarding brand, capital structure and which entity will be distributed will be provided in the future, a company statement said.

One research group said the separation will further enhance Motorola's mobile radio division. "Last year, sales for the enterprise mobility solutions group represented \$7 billion — a key element of this was its mobile radio business," said Jatinder Thandi, research analyst with IMS Research. "Looking ahead, the mobile radio industry is going through a large-scale migration from analog to digital. Motorola is in an excellent position, having a large portfolio of digital technologies that cater to all end users and key intellectual property rights (IPR) that will enable it to continue its dominance of the mobile radio industry."

The Motorola statement said there is no assurance that any separation transaction will ultimately occur and no assurances as to its terms or timing.



connected via gateways.

The police forces will be equipped with handheld radio devices and vehicle radio devices. The system will be complemented by a separate training facility in Djibouti City, which will train the network's operators and users.

INTERNATIONAL

NEW YORK — Two separate digital radio associations announced interoperability initiatives. The NXDN Forum announced plans for interoperability and conformance testing procedures for NXDN products.

The testing procedures will be completed during mid-2010. Within 30 days after, certification of the test lab candidates will begin. Testing will be done at neutral labs certified by the NXDN Forum's steering committee.

Initial product certifications will be awarded to members in the fourth quarter, said Mark Jasin, NXDN Forum chairman. He also announced collaboration with the digital Private Mobile Radio (dPMR) memorandum of understanding (MoU).

Separately, the Digital Mobile Radio (DMR) Association announced the first DMR interoperability test session will take place in Milan, Italy, the week of April 26.

The announcement follows progress defining a list of interoperability tests, suitable test methodology, testing laboratory criteria and a test result verification process for both conventional and trunked modes of operation. The test session will complete phase one of the DMR Association's interoperability program.

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Photo courtesy Tait

Transportation Radio Solutions

The best technology choices for planes, trains and buses depend on specific user requirements.

By Lindsay A. Gross

There are a myriad of factors to consider when selecting the most appropriate technology for transportation communications. Mobile radio solutions for transportation use a variety of technologies, including analog and digital, and incorporate a mix of public and private networks. “If ever there were a perfect match between a sector and a technology, then surely it must be transportation and mobile communications,” says Mark Thomas, strategic marketing director for Team Simoco. “Increasingly, there is a drive to get more from each asset to ensure that vehicles can be kept out on the road or track for as much time as possible, making it essential for communications to be mobile.”

The most fundamental need is to maintain contact with vehicles — buses, trams, metro, rail or airports/airlines — to ensure the most basic level of safety for both drivers and passengers. “However, having established basic mobile communications, application providers have driven the sector forward with a variety of solutions tailored to specific needs, progressing from safety to efficiency and cost reduction, to customer service and now, increasingly, environmental management,” Thomas says.

Whatever the sector within the transport industry, mobile communications to support both voice and data are key to safe and efficient operations. “It’s often the case in the transport sector that care must be

taken with regard to the actual environment into which the radio system will have to be installed,” says Duncan Swan, partner with Analysys Mason, a consulting firm. “Be sure to be clear in any procurement just what size, space and power constraints must be considered.”

Buses

Different transportation communications types often vary based on user requirements. “For example, in rural areas or small towns, buses will probably only need simple voice communications for status updates, which only requires repeaters and either a quasi-synchronous system or a single trunked system,” Thomas says. “However, with urban buses and trams, the requirements are likely to be more complex, calling for status and real-time passenger information (RTPI), voice communications including call features, traffic light control and alarms, which rely

Mission-Critical Mobile VPN for TETRA & Broadband Networks

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Roaming and Policy Management

The software seamlessly roams from one network to another, allowing mobile workforces to combine their PMR or TETRA infrastructure with cellular or Broadband IP networks to take full advantage of emerging bandwidth-hungry applications and to extend coverage where needed. IT Administrators are able to set policies to better manage which network will carry a specific application's data based on priority, application need, time of day or cost of access.

Concurrent VPN – The Future of Mobile VPN Technology

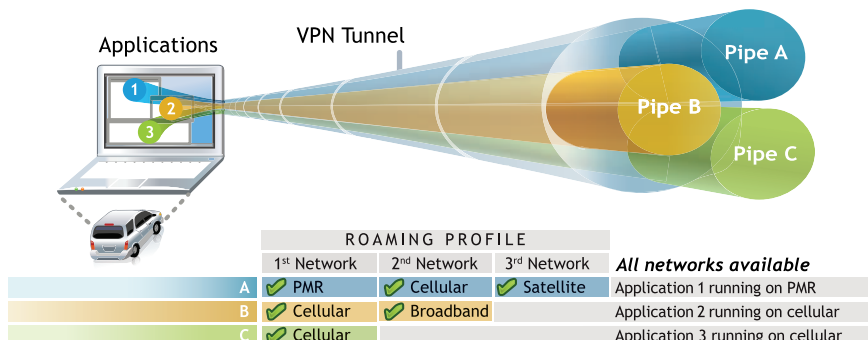
So far, mobile workforces are able to roam from one network to another, but are not able to access both at the same time -- a real problem for emergency responders because mission-critical data applications, such as computer-aided dispatch (CAD), should generally be ensured to transmit over the most reliable wireless network available. Bandwidth intensive applications with less severe security and resilience requirements -- for example, video streaming -- should be able to concurrently transfer data over 3G or broadband networks without impacting or being impacted by applications that are transmitting over mission-critical PMR systems like TETRA at the very same time.

With Concurrent VPN technology, due to be widely available in 2010, users will be able to transmit over multiple networks simultaneously, thus maximizing their infrastructure resources

and saving time and money. Concurrent VPN bridges the best features of multiple networks and creates what amounts to a single "network of networks" to achieve a high level of performance, reliability and trusted access.

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Photo courtesy Tait



Photo courtesy Teltronic

on multisite trunked systems.”

For many of Tait Radio Communications’ public transport customers in Europe, MPT-1327 analog trunked networks have been the preferred communications solution, says Paul Gwynn, the company’s global transport sector manager. Analog trunked networks offer both comprehensive voice and data services within the same radio infrastructure and terminals. Digital Mobile Radio (DMR) and MPT 1327 solutions are available across a wide range of PMR frequency bands, which require compliance with the ETS 300-113 standard and can coexist with 12.5-kilohertz users. “Some technologies, on the other hand, are available only in a limited number of frequency bands, and require dedicated spectrum to avoid interference,” Gwynn says.

London Bus — responsible for Europe’s largest bus fleet — operates an MPT 1327-based system that was implemented as part of the iBus project during the past three years, Swan says. Supplemented by GPRS and local Wi-Fi-based data services, London Bus benefits from a range of voice and data applications including:

- Location services to enable better control of buses;
- Historical monitoring of bus performance;
- Real-time information to passengers; and
- Integration of traffic enforcement and bus priority.

“With an MPT system, a transport organization can incorporate dedicated data channels to efficiently transport the data required in an automatic vehicle location (AVL) and control system,” Gwynn says. “In addition, the bus radio used in conjunction with the onboard computer can provide communications for ticket machines, traffic signal priority, sign clear down, voice announcement and passenger counting data.”

According to Peter Clemons, director of telecommunications for Teltronic, AVL is becoming a common feature for managing large fleets of buses and trams in urban mass transit systems. “The increased availability of GPS for onboard radio units opens up a wide range of applications from the control room to passenger information services in the vehicle itself and at bus stops,” Clemons says. “However, it is critical for the customer to choose the right technology and sufficient network capacity to be able to handle data refresh times without clogging



MPT 1327 is often used for communications on buses, GSM-R for the rail industry, and TETRA for light rail (metro) and airlines/airports.

up the network and putting critical voice communications at risk.”

Rail Industry

One of the fiercest battles between technologies across the world continues in the rail industry — TETRA versus GSM-R, Swan says. “It would be easy to segment the rail industry such that light rail (metro) equals TETRA and heavy rail equals GSM-R. But that is to underestimate the intense competition that continues between the suppliers of the two technologies,” he says.

Metro. Some metro systems are now deploying broadband wireless to communicate data across their system and to meet the needs of voice, alarm and status communications. The London Underground network uses a TETRA-based system delivered as part of the Connect project. In Asia and Latin America, the vast majority, if not all of the metro projects seeking new mobile radio solutions are tending to specifically request TETRA be provided as the bearer of choice. Yet in Australia, especially Sydney and Brisbane, there has been a tendency toward GSM-R, Swan says.

The metro environment is particularly challenging as new metro lines cutting through high-density urban environments often run farther underground, Clemons says. “For

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“According to the latest TETRA Association figures, the number of TETRA systems installed in the transport sector overtook the number of public-safety networks during 2009.”

— Peter Clemons, Teltronic

example, the Barcelona Metro Line 9 will drop to approximately 70 meters below ground,” he says. “A comprehensive TETRA network is being implemented with special and fully redundant communications racks on each train, connected to the train control management system (TCMS) and special vandal-proof radio consoles at each of the wagons.”

Railway. GSM-R is the main technology used on railways. The GSM-R pan-European rail network is at the center of coordinating fast and efficient rail travel throughout

Europe, establishing a European network that is operational regardless of borders, Thomas says. Sheer distance is one of many factors in selecting the most appropriate technology. In larger countries such as certain African nations and Australia, it may not be as economical to install GSM-R infrastructure in areas with low-traffic density. “A combined solution of GSM-R and PMR systems can be used instead,” Thomas says.

TETRA is finding it harder to make progress in the mainline rail-

way sector, Clemons says. In Western Europe in the 1990s, GSM-R, a variation of GSM, was mandated for use by mainline railways, “mainly because of the fact that TETRA hadn’t been deployed,” Clemons says. Russia’s 800-kilometer Moscow to St. Petersburg rail link uses TETRA, along with the Taiwan high-speed rail link and an increasing number of routes across China. Teltronic has also deployed TETRA networks on suburban railways in Mexico and Brazil.

“Considering that TETRA is dominant in metro, tram and light railway solutions across Europe and the world, there should be no reason why it can’t provide competition for GSM-R in Europe,” Clemons says. Swan agrees. “If TETRA can be proved to support the Electronic Train Control System (ETCS), then perhaps there will be an alternative bearer choice for those railway operators mandated to support train signaling,” Swan says.



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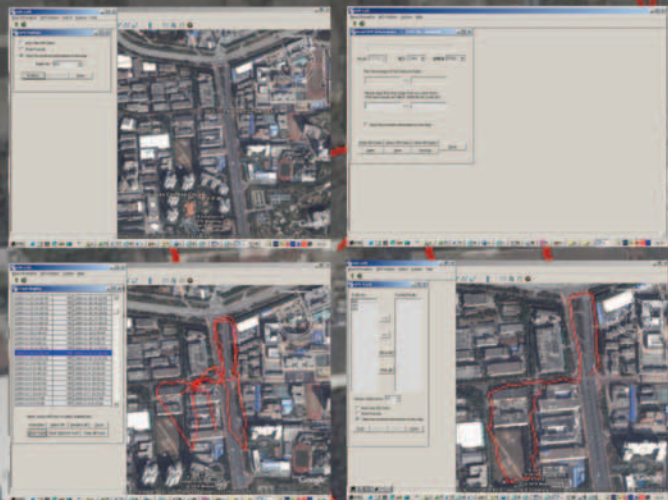


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“It would be easy to segment the rail industry such that light rail (metro) equals TETRA and heavy rail equals GSM-R. But that is to underestimate the intense competition that continues between the suppliers of the two technologies.”

— Duncan Swan, Analysys Mason

Airlines/Airports

In the airline and airport industries, mobile radio communications also plays a big part in ensuring efficient operations. Productivity is particularly important. “At airports such as London’s Heathrow, network and software service providers are building application-focused network solutions that enable radio users to access a range of mission-critical applications, putting the information they need to carry out their job into the palm of

their hand,” Thomas says. “These are highly tuned networking solutions deploying modern TETRA networks and the latest digital compression techniques to maximize application performance over the relatively narrowband world of radio networking.”

There have been a number of innovative uses of mobile radio worldwide in air-travel related industries — one of the simplest being the formation of a talk group set up specifically for each flight so that all

resources can work and communicate together, Swan says. “The use of short data applications can further enhance efficiency; aircraft dispatching is process driven so tasks are completed, relevant forms can be filled and filed; and at larger airports, the use of location-based services play an important role,” Swan says.

TETRA is increasingly becoming the technology of choice for transportation communications such as metros, buses, airports and ports around the world, according to Clemons. “In fact, although many would consider TETRA to be a public-safety solution, according to the latest TETRA Association figures, the number of systems installed in the transport sector overtook the number of public-safety networks during 2009,” Clemons says. ■

Lindsay A. Gross is managing editor of *RadioResource International*. E-mail comments to editor@RRMediagroup.com.

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A TETRA and DMR Comparison

Both standards have advantages for users upgrading to digital technologies.

By Roberto Marengon



Photo courtesy Motorola

People perceive the term digital as more advanced and better than analog, because digital presents a number of attractive advantages to users. Two digital technologies — TETRA and Digital Mobile Radio (DMR) — offer different benefits, but which is the right choice for your system? When a user decides to upgrade a mobile radio system, many factors should be considered. TETRA often presents high infrastructure costs. Are these costs appropriate for the given benefits compared with the emerging DMR solution? Understanding some of the key points that characterize each of the digital technologies will help you make the best decision.

History of the Standards

TETRA standards development started in the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI) in the mid-1980s by a group of radio

manufacturers. The initial requirement was a digital standard to replace the MPT 1327 analog trunked networks and to introduce a number of new features. The primary market segment intended for TETRA was the public access mobile radio (PAMR) market, where operators charge users service fees for trunked radio services. In the 1980s, many European countries had a strong interest in national PAMR systems for private dispatch communications and telephony. The standard specifications were written following the main needs of a PAMR system to maximize traffic capability.

ETSI chose a TDMA access and modulation schema to decrease the cell dimension and to increase traffic density. More traffic equals more business. ETSI spent several years specifying the standard because of the high complexity of the initial requirements — efficient linear mod-

ulation, vocoder selection, powerful protocols, field experimental tests and others.

During the same time, GSM networks expanded their coverage outside towns with reasonable and decreasing costs. As a result, an important part of the mobile radio market intended for TETRA was devoured by GSM technology. The huge effort needed to develop TETRA, together with the market contraction, produced economic disasters for many companies involved in TETRA's development. The surviving companies identified a new market segment to help pay for the investments — public-safety services. The manufacturers, with the contribution of some European governments, oriented their efforts to the more profitable security market. TETRA is the most popular solution for public safety in Europe, although the costs and economic crisis have



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TETRA is often the best choice for medium- to high-capacity trunked networks with high traffic volume and low coverage areas, such as large industrial sites, large campuses, airports and similar locations.

slowed implementation in some countries.

DMR's history is shorter and more recent. The DMR standard was published by ETSI in 2006 and optimized at the end of 2007. DMR was developed to substitute analog two-way radio systems with a pin-to-pin digital solution, meaning the digital system should perform the same coverage and application schema — repeater, multisite network, simulcast and trunking — as the previous analog network. Motorola played an essential role in the specification activities and was the first actor in this new segment of the professional

mobile radio (PMR) market. Less effort was needed to develop a DMR radio, because DMR is a less complex technology than TETRA. The standard offered a reasonable investment for several radio manufacturers. Motorola, Selex Communications, HYT, Funkwerk and Radio Activity offer commercial DMR products, and Tait, Team Simoco and Vertex Standard plan to offer DMR equipment.

Feature Points

DMR and TETRA are digital standards, and they provide some similar benefits to end users —


encryption, which is more robust in TETRA; efficient data communications for GPS positioning, messaging and others; automatic handover and roaming; authentication; direct mode communications; and private and conference calls. The time division full-duplex operation of terminals is available only in TETRA. The DMR standard specifies it, but no terminals yet perform time division full-duplex operation.

Coverage versus Traffic. A customer should determine if it's more important to fulfill high traffic needs or a large coverage area. While TETRA is designed to support high traffic volumes with small cells and a large number of channels, DMR works with large cells similar to analog systems, but DMR isn't optimized to manage many channels. This point is important, because decreasing the cell radius may require more sites to cover the same area. DMR was developed to cover



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The TETRA modulation schema is a linear four TDMA channels in a 25-kilohertz channel. The modulation implies that the maximum RF power available on TETRA portable terminals is lower than for DMR — up to 2 watts compared with 5 watts for DMR. Sensitivity is less in TETRA than DMR because of twice the bandwidth of the receiver. In addition, TETRA works only in the UHF bands, so the propagation effects also reduce the coverage capability. DMR uses a robust fixed envelope modulation schema that provides the same RF power and sensitivity of conventional analog systems. DMR offers similar coverage performance; no more sites are needed to change an existing system from analog to DMR technology. DMR performs with two TDMA channels in 12.5-kilohertz spacing per carrier, so it requires a more expensive branching system to increase the number of desired channels. Some

DMR trunked systems are in development, but they are not available yet.

Network Backbone. There are several media, including copper lines, multiplexed audio lines, UHF narrowband channels, IP networks and public switched telephone network (PSTN), used to connect analog base stations. The TETRA interconnection backbone must ensure a bandwidth of several Megabits per second (Mbps) to serve the fast signaling needed for correct operations. It is hard to achieve such bandwidth in most analog connection supports. The DMR bandwidth requirement is low. A few tens of kilobits per second (kbps) are enough to carry both the two channels and all the related signaling. A narrowband UHF link also operating in nondirect visibility or a traditional phone modem can connect two or more DMR base stations. This is another example of DMR pin-to-pin substitution of an existing analog installation.

Network Management. For an emergency organization, it is essential to efficiently manage all the communications resources during disaster events. Many emergency services agencies have internal technical services to guarantee fast and secure operations in extreme cases. In these occurrences, complexity should be avoided, and technical staff must be able to easily modify, repair or reconfigure the system. A crash in a node of the system should not cause a communications black-out. The complexity of TETRA infrastructure elements — base stations and switching nodes — are not easy to understand, manage and reconfigure. TETRA networks outsource maintenance activities. DMR systems are similar to well-known analog networks, and the main operations don't differ significantly. Staff skilled in analog radio can be trained to efficiently operate DMR infrastructure, so mission-critical organizations can have full control of their

The diagram illustrates a global communication network for HAL Clover Mail. It features five main nodes: a 'Field Remote' (a small building in a mountainous area), a 'Mobile Remote' (a truck), a 'Marine Remote' (a sailboat), an 'Office Internet Gateway' (a large city building), and a 'Residence Remote or Internet Gateway' (a suburban house). Red arrows show a fully interconnected mesh between all these nodes, indicating that any node can communicate with any other node. Below the diagram is a yellow box with the text: 'HAL CLOVER MAIL E-Mail via HF Radio Link using: CLOVER-2000 ANYWHERE NO Phone Line Charges NO Satellite Charges'. To the right of this box is the HAL Communications Corp. logo and contact information.

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mobile communications resources.

Analog-to-Digital Migration.

Because of its analog/digital dual-mode feature, DMR offers a natural migration path from analog to digital radio systems. The DMR standard covers all the most used analog solutions such as single site, multisite, simulcast and trunking. A customer can start to implement DMR radio infrastructure over an existing analog network, reusing sites, antennas, power supplies, branching, connection links and frequency licenses. If problems are discovered, they can be solved more easily in analog mode than in digital. The customer can gradually implement the new DMR equipment working in dual mode and interoperating with the analog network.

TETRA migration presents a different scenario: TETRA is a revolution in the radio approach for infrastructure aspects and for end-user operations. TETRA offers few possibilities of interoperability between digital and analog terminals. TETRA is a trunked-only standard and operates in UHF spectrum in Europe. There are also TETRA systems in the Middle East, Africa, Asia, and South and Latin America. Tuning a new digital system could require some time to solve unknown problems in an unfamiliar environment. The migration from an analog system to TETRA produces an abrupt discontinuity and requires a switch to the new radio system at the same time.

Spectrum Efficiency. The spectral efficiency of TETRA must be considered accurately. TETRA gives three (plus one for control) channels in 25-kilohertz channel spacing compared with the 6.25-kilohertz channel of DMR when no control channel is requested. The lower carrier to interference (C/I) protection ratio of the TETRA modulation and the poor adjacent channel selectivity reduce the spectral efficiency. It takes more distance to reuse the same frequency and causes more spectral pollution. TETRA

DMR is especially suited to large areas with relatively low traffic applications where simulcast gives the best performance.

requires a continuous control channel on air, so the power supply requirements of a base station may be several times greater than for DMR base stations. Unlike DMR, it is difficult to use solar cells to supply TETRA infrastructure.

The major difference is the modulation scheme. For pi/4-DQPSK modulation, TETRA requires super linear power amplifiers that result in high DC power consumption and poor efficiency because of the combined amplitude and phase modulation. The constant envelope modulation of DMR, 4FSK frequency modulation, has an efficiency advantage over TETRA of a factor of about two to three.

Vendor Environment. TETRA takes advantage of a mature multi-vendor environment. The major manufacturers have standardized and made interoperable radio platforms, so it is easy for a customer to select the best supplier. Hundreds of successful installations provide confidence about the stability of the TETRA solution. DMR is too young for such an environment. There are some important ETSI unspecified points for DMR such as the vocoder (AMBE II+ will likely be the de facto standard), interoperability tests, encryption coding and most services including positioning. The manufacturers said they need interoperability to take advantage of a true open market, but DMR presents some proprietary features. Some manufacturers are developing trunked solutions for DMR, but based on available information, each vendor protocol looks different and incompatible.

Costs. TETRA was designed to cover the PAMR market with every imaginable feature, so complexity and development costs contribute to the final product cost. The trunking approach requires fast and expensive

dedicated switch nodes to run the full protocol. The connections between base stations and the nodes must support several Mbps of bandwidth to avoid excessive signaling delays. The number of sites required to perform the same coverage of an existing analog system may be twice or more. More sites mean not only a higher initial investment, but also fixed costs because of maintenance, site rent, frequency licenses and backbone links. Moreover, a linear modulation requires more expensive hardware and implies higher energy consumption and dissipation.

TETRA offers advantages and disadvantages compared with DMR, and it is often the best choice for medium- to high-capacity trunked networks with high traffic volume and low coverage areas, such as large industrial sites, large campuses, airports and similar locations. DMR offers a true replacement of analog systems with all the benefits of a digital solution. Some care has to be taken when a trunked system is needed due to the proprietary and not-yet-available DMR trunked solutions. DMR is especially suited to large areas with relatively low traffic applications where simulcast gives the best performance. ■

Roberto Marengon is the managing director of Radio Activity, a radio communications engineering firm. He started his career at Alcatel, developing the first Italian 900 MHz cordless telephone. He was the research and development manager of Prod el SpA (formerly Marconi Group and now Selex Communications) for more than 10 years, developing a new generation of simulcast networks. In 1998, he started engineering company SIEL TRE Srl, focused on maritime radio applications, and launched Radio Activity in 2003. E-mail comments to r.marengon@radioactivity-tlc.it.



Photo courtesy Getty Images

Integrated Technology

Secures UAE Grand Prix

By Siva Sivakumar

Abu Dhabi is home to the world's newest and perhaps most technically advanced motor racing facility — the Yas Marina Circuit, site of the United Arab Emirates' (UAE) inaugural Etihad Airways Formula One World Championship Grand Prix 20 October – 1 November 2009. The name Abu Dhabi can be traced to the Arabic *Ab zab* — meaning father of gazelle — so it's no wonder the emirate has an innate passion for speed. Within two years, the barren sands of Yas Island have given way to a luxurious venue that includes a marina adjacent to a state-of-the-art motor raceway straddled by a five-star hotel and bordered by covered grandstand seating for 50,000 spectators at strategic vistas around the track.

The Formula One Higher Security Committee, comprised of the Abu Dhabi police and a number of government agencies including the emirate's armed forces, contacted UAE-based Atlas Telecom for a video surveillance solution. VDG Security, a video firm from the Netherlands, installed more than 250 cameras throughout the Yas Marina Circuit property. The cameras fed into a video management system and a wall of monitors at a server center. That building was in turn linked by a WAN connection to the command operations center, as well as a redundant center at a remote location.

Mohamed Al Mutawa, head of Atlas' security division, deployed software from Solacom Technologies to integrate several mobile command centers, including a tethered dirigible floating high over the site. The new

system integrated radio in a mobile VoIP environment over a wireless network. A month before the race, installation and testing of the LibertyCOMMAND integrated software for strategic command centers began.

"When we started the project, many had questions regarding the ability to provide an integrated video system involving mobile and static environments," Al Mutawa says.

The inaugural Abu Dhabi race witnessed a number of firsts — including the first day into night Formula One Grand Prix. For night operations, the mobile command centers were equipped with high-resolution day/night vision cameras, as well as radars. All cameras and radars fed into encoders, and each center, except for the dirigible, also had an IP phone supplied by Solacom.

The encoded video and the VoIP calls were transported over a wireless mesh network to the server center. The command operations center and remote backup center were each equipped with a workstation with the software and an IP phone.

Operators at the prime and redundant command operations centers selected and viewed the video feeds from any of the mobile command centers. The operators instantly communicated by voice or conference with security agents in the vehicles, or anywhere else, for rapid response to developing threats. Security agents within the mobile command centers communicated by VoIP to other mobile agents, the command operations center or both.

"All were impressed with how we

moved video from multiple mobile cameras into one coherent picture with no issues regarding latency or integration," Al Mutawa says. "Without exception, the ability to show anyone a view at any point and at any time as to what was happening, made a great difference in making everyone comfortable with the security arrangements at the event."

In fact, the system was engineered to integrate more than 250 mobile and static cameras into one common operating picture with remote pan tilt zoom (PTZ) control for all cameras. The system also recorded and time stamped all video and imagery, as well as interfaced with database applications for facial, license plate and object movement recognition.

For increased mobility throughout the perimeter, the Yas deployment could have extended actionable situational awareness to portables such as smart phones or personal digital assistants (PDAs), with video, data and voice connectivity to the command operations center. Other features such as text messaging, group calling and networking, hot button customization and direct public announcing access from phone networks could also play a role in event security. Solacom technology has also caught the eye of neighboring Saudi Arabia, where the Royal Saudi Navy is set to deploy multiple LibertyCOMMAND systems this year. ■

Siva Sivakumar is vice president of advanced mission systems for Solacom Technologies. E-mail comments to schandrakaran@solacom.com.

TETRAnews



Critical communications for all professional users

ISSUE 1/2010

CRITICAL COMMUNICATIONS FOR A NEW DECADE

Phil Godfrey, Chairman, TETRA Association

It is sobering to realise that already we are embarking on a new decade. Perhaps even more sobering is to reflect back and see just how far TETRA has come since the year 2000. The technology is now established in 114 countries of the world and without doubt has become the technology of choice for public safety, the transport industry, utilities, petrochemical and others. This surely makes TETRA the most widely accepted digital technology in the Land Mobile Radio business.



Phil Godfrey

But what of the coming decade? Well there is plenty still to do. TEDS technology will bring TETRA's data capability up to a more useable data rate of 150kbit/s and upwards resulting in many more data applications becoming viable. In addition, the Association has been working with ETSI on a project to develop a Broadband capability for the future. This will ensure that TETRA remains a relevant and current technology.

Of course our work is not over in developing new markets, and work with the regulators in the USA and Canada may yet see North



The global TETRA community will meet for the 12th TETRA World Congress at the Suntec Singapore International Convention and Exhibition Centre – Tuesday 25th to Thursday 27th May. To join us, visit www.tetraworldcongress.com/association

American users enjoying the benefits of TETRA technology in the not too distant future.

There is no question that the beginning of the new decade is an exciting time and there is nowhere better than the forthcoming TETRA

World Congress to learn and to discuss what is coming next, and to see what our industry partners have in store. Join us in Singapore for what is guaranteed to be a most memorable event.



INDUSTRY FIRST

Fire departments need to rely on handsets that are tested to meet the most rigorous of standards to ensure reliability under difficult or extreme conditions.

A handset that meets the European Union's ATEX directive for intrinsically safe radios means users can use them with confidence in areas where dust, explosive gases or flammable materials are present. Motorola's MTP850Ex has been certified at IP65 standards – an industry first for handheld TETRA radio devices used in mission critical services.

The digital bridge



Linking networks across the Øresund bridge

Photo © Miklos Szabo/Øresundbron

Swedish Radio Supply (SRS) and Radiocom Denmark developed an innovative solution in order to facilitate communication between two national TETRA public safety networks during the International Climate Conference in Copenhagen.

The solution harmonised communication between the Rakel network in Sweden and Denmark's Sine network on the 16km Øresund Bridge that links the two countries.

Co-operation between emergency service organisations is important in the Øresund Region, not only during the high-profile conference, but

also in the future due to the high volume of cross-border traffic using the bridge.

The communications system consists of Sepura's SRG Gateway radios combined with special cross communication software and hardware. The system handles talk-groups in both the Sine and Rakel networks, using a digital bridge to enable public safety users in Denmark and Sweden to communicate seamlessly with each other. This system also makes it possible to control and monitor network status, speech latency and error signals in both networks

SURGE OF GROWTH IN 2011

Jatinder Thandi, Research Analyst, Mobile Radio, IMS Research

Despite the global recession and a rocky second quarter, the TETRA terminals market showed its resilience in a difficult 2009. IMS Research's latest report on the worldwide LMR market estimated 2009 TETRA shipments increased more than five per cent year-on-year.

Without any new nationwide contract tenders, European shipments were largely driven by three main markets: terminal refreshment cycles by police constabularies in the UK; initial shipments on the German BOS network; and the delivery of terminals for the Portuguese SIRESP network.

Looking longer term, the global TETRA market is forecast to grow with a CAGR of over 15 per cent over the four years. Significantly, as economic conditions improve over the next two years, IMS Research forecast another surge of growth in 2011, driven by a third wave of large contracts currently under consideration.

However, the growth of TETRA is likely to face competition from low cost digital technologies, such as DMR, NXDN, and dPMR. Another IMS Research report, "WW Market for DMR/dPMR", illustrates the rapid uptake of these technologies across a range of markets, over a very short space of time. More importantly, success has not been limited to non-PSS markets. To give an example of the potential impact, many believe TETRA has a strong future in China, yet local LMR companies are committed to developing a Chinese standard for police, which could be in use as early as 2011.

Looking ahead, the TETRA market remains in very good shape. However, continued acceleration of Low Cost Digital radio adoption is likely to drive a new phase of technology competition, especially in emerging markets.

IMS Research analysts Patrick Connolly and Jatinder Thandi will be at the TETRA World Congress in Singapore and available to discuss TETRA market trends.

TETRAtraining

The spring TETRAtraining courses for 2010 will take place during week commencing 15th March in London, UK. These will include the TETRAfirst, TETRAcomplete and TETRAsecurity courses.

All our courses are delivered by highly qualified and experienced TETRA practitioners. Full details can be found on

www.tetra-association.com

Can't make these dates? Always available is onlineTETRA, the online training course. Just visit www.tetra-association.com for more information. Training in your own work place at your own pace provided exclusively to the Association by a leading TETRA training organisation.

New path for SDS

Funk-Electronic Piciorgros have announced successful demonstration of Optimised Short Data Service (OSDS) over TETRA networks. OSDS uses readily available and proven mechanisms in the TETRA standard, and Piciorgros claims up to twofold throughput in comparison with the standard method to exchange short data messages.

OSDS is enabled by an intelligent infrastructure interface or gateway. This advises the infrastructure on how much data is expected from the terminal when polling for data, so the data transfer capacity is reserved beforehand.

The demonstration was carried out on a Rohill TetraNode system, and Piciorgros is inviting other infrastructure suppliers to perform interoperability tests.



TETRAnews



Comments and contributions welcomed, please send to editor@tetra-association.com

SPECTRUM WATCH

Is Public Safety using its spectrum efficiently?

By Risto Toikkanen, TETRA Association Board Member with responsibility for the Spectrum Group within the Association

The question of spectral efficiency in public safety frequency bands popped up in the discussion about their future spectrum needs. The conclusion in CEPT after the PPDR questionnaire from early 2009 was that public safety will need more spectrum for mobile data capacity. So the question of efficiency is a valid one and should be answered with facts.

But is efficiency measured, against what is it benchmarked, and what would be the conclusion?

We conducted a small study in our Radio Spectrum Group to clarify the situation.

The concept of efficiency itself is not self evident in systems that should always have room for handling major incidents. A public safety radio network cannot be designed like a cellular system to run close to its capacity limits and bring optimal return on the licence investment. It is easy to point out remote provinces where very few radio channels are occupied at 3am on a winter weekday morning. But would that be proof of bad efficiency? Not likely as the communication capability is needed there in any case.

How to benchmark the efficiency then? There are some ways one can compare the current status with earlier history to see what has changed and how one can compare Europe with some other industrialised region to see possible difference. One can also check whether there are incident reports indicating problems.

Looking at the present and past spectrum usage in Europe reveals a clear difference. The digitalisation of emergency service radio systems introduced much more economic modulations, introduced trunking to share the load optimally and collected all agencies in one radio system and in one frequency band. Now European public safety forces will use only 2 x 5 MHz between 380 and 400 MHz instead of the many and wider VHF and UHF bands used earlier and which are now being vacated. This means an efficiency improvement by something like 50per cent, if not more.

Comparison between Europe and North America could be done in several ways due to differing rules and sharing schemes, but whatever calculation method is used, the 2 x 5 MHz band used in Europe is clearly less than that which North-American public safety and security



Risto Toikkanen

forces have secured for their use. The possible conclusions are that either Europe is much more efficient or is lacking something important.

We found examples of major cities close to borders suffering channel outage due to international channel sharing, the biggest cities like London facing channel outage just due to the user numbers, and regions like Benelux cross-hatched by national borders that split the band between four nations. These cases demonstrate true and existing lack of channel capacity even when using narrowband radios only. Whether that is a direct indication of efficiency could be debated, but if it is not an indication of efficiency you can take it as an indication of need for more frequencies.

PPDR workshop in March

As reported earlier, CEPT decided to gather together all stakeholders of the public safety spectrum dialogue in a joint PPDR Workshop in Mainz, Germany on March 11th – 12th to debate once more the spectrum need and benefits and disadvantages of different possible solutions.

The programme is now available at www.ero.com together with a registration form. The workshop is open for everyone interested and the speakers represent several user organisations, radio administrations, standards working groups, industry etc to get all views spoken.

Start planning your visit to the largest gathering of TETRA Professionals in the world!

TETRA

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- Experience 3 days of conference sessions, training, networking and exhibition



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Argentina SELEX Communications secures

Buenos Aires Police SELEX Communications is to supply a TETRA system for the new police forces of Buenos Aires, Argentina. The system will be operational from March 2010, and will cover the entire metropolitan area of the city with additional indoor coverage in the city centre.

The contract is to supply a complete solution including 10 new-generation base stations (BS Plus) and over 2000 terminals in the first phase.

The City of Buenos Aires has benefited from special status as federal district since 1994, with its own constitution and its own government. The last government of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires deliberated for the formation of a new police corp to face the increasing need of security in an area that today is the second largest metropolitan area of South America.

China The largest TETRA system in China EADS and iASPEC Software have signed a contract to jointly provide a TETRA system for the Shenzhen Public Security Bureau. This will be the largest digital trunked network for the police in China providing secure radio communications for more than 25,000 users in Shenzhen. It will also offer secure communication services for the 26th World University Games scheduled for August, 2011.

EADS and CETC-7 Ltd. (China Electronic Science and Technology Group Corporation No.7 Research Institute) have been awarded a contract to jointly provide a TETRA radio system for the Guangzhou municipal government. The system will provide secure radio communications for more than 60,000 users over an area of more than 7,000 sq. km. in the city of Guangzhou. It will also offer secure communication services for the 16th Asian Games scheduled for November this year.

Denmark Motorola delivers tough terminals Motorola has supplied the Fire Departments of Lolland and Guldborgssund in the Danish region of Zealand with ATEX (Atmosphere Explosive) TETRA portable terminals for its firemen. The handsets are engineered specifically for the tough conditions firemen can encounter, and include a simplified keyboard with a large button surface which can be used with protective gloves weighted enough to ensure that the user can feel that the product is there. The terminal includes a familiar user interface with large scalable display fonts and icons to facilitate operation in difficult environments with limited visibility, plus an integrated GPS receiver that can locate personnel, improving user safety and

resource management. An internal "Man Down" alert triggers an emergency procedure when the user of the radio remains motionless for a period of time.

France Sepura in new deal with Nancy The cluster of municipalities within the Nancy region in France - Communauté Urbaine du Grand Nancy (CUGN) - has chosen Sepura TETRA radios for its public service organisations. The radios will operate



Stanislas Square, Nancy

on a digital infrastructure deployed by SYSOCO, Sepura's distributor in France. The radios will be supplied to Grand Nancy's municipal police, public transport, water utilities and the city's technical management departments. Teams in charge of maintenance and surveillance of the municipalities' parks and gardens will also be among the first users to join the new digital network.

The forthcoming migration to TETRA of Grand Nancy's transport services will bring major enhancements to the passenger support and information system. The new system will improve



driver safety in the city's bus and minibus routes and will ensure real-time data transfer of bus route and passenger information displayed on digital message boards.

The French city of Clermont-Ferrand (above) has chosen Sepura TETRA radios to enhance communications between the departments and services operating within its municipality. This contract was secured by SYSOCO, Sepura's partner in France.

Germany North Rhine-Westphalia selects Selectric Selectric GmbH has won the tender for



From left, Hendrik Pieper, Selectric - Jürgen Mathies, LZPD - Jürgen Heußner, Selectric

the supply of Sepura TETRA radios to the German federal state of North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW). The digital terminals will be delivered to the North Rhine-Westphalian Police. The contract is for 25,000 Sepura radios and accessories.

The first radios were handed over to the regional authorities' leader for the central police services of North Rhine-Westphalia (LZPD), Mr. Jürgen Mathies, by Selectric's General Managers, Jürgen Heußner and Hendrik Pieper.

The tender's estimated total value amounts to €30 million. It was originally awarded in April 2009, and ratified in December 2009.

Largest terminals order in Germany The federal state of Saxony has selected Sepura TETRA radios for its public safety users. The contract, for a total of 30,000 radios, was secured by Selectric. The terminals will be supplied to police, fire brigades and rescue services in the state. This is the largest contract awarded to date for TETRA radios in Germany.

All the German states to have selected Sepura TETRA radios will adopt the BOS-Safety SIM card from the very first day of deployment, providing end-to-end encryption. Sepura radios are the first to support this type of encryption in Germany and the first to achieve certification by the BSI - the German authority responsible for ITC security.

Minister receives first radio for Hamburg Christoph Ahlhaus, left, Minister of the Interior of the



German City State of Hamburg receives the first digital TETRA radios for the city's public safety organisation from Hendrik Pieper from Selectric.

The contract for the delivery of 10,000 Sepura radios - to be supplied over the next three years - was awarded to Selectric following a European-wide tender. The radios will be provided to the police, fire brigades and ambulance services in Hamburg.

India Government Radio Network for New Delhi Following the terrorist attack on Mumbai in November 2008, the Indian government has established a Government Radio Network (GRN) for the capital city of New Delhi. The city, hosting the 2010 Commonwealth Games, will be the first in the country to have a GRN for its government departments to collaborate over a single, digital, secure and private communication network to counter public safety emergency situations. New Delhi joins a number of major cities in Asia looking at this approach to public safety and disaster mitigation.

The TETRA GRN chosen by Delhi Government is built and maintained by Motorola and HCL Infosystems under a seven year contract.

A GRN goes beyond being a strategic public safety mechanism during one-off international events. It is a new paradigmatic approach. A GRN can deliver efficiencies and cost benefits and empower first responders with real-time information to help them take rapid life-saving decisions with unprecedented pre-emptive and combative capabilities.

The Delhi GRN will serve as a critical communications backbone in facilitating inter-agency communications and collaboration amongst the Delhi police, fire services, hospitals, public works department and the Delhi Transport Corporation over a single network. Security is ensured through the use of advanced encryption; and the network provides full visibility to individual subscribers at any given time at the command and control centre.

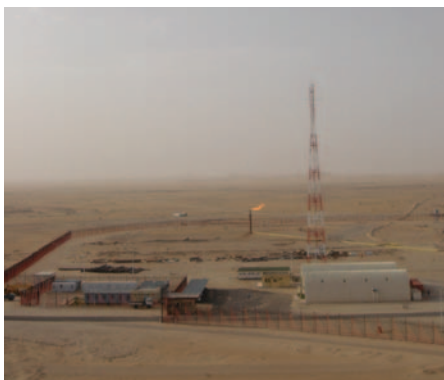
Motorola will also be rolling-out a GRN in Western China. As more and more countries realise the serious threat that terrorism and natural disasters pose to public safety and national stability, governments are beginning to look at the immense value and capabilities offered by next-generation Government Radio Networks.



has chosen Damm's TetraFlex® infrastructure for its communications system. The project was delivered by DAMM's partner Flash Services in The Netherlands.

At Heerema, the TETRA communication plays an important role in coordinating transport of equipment, plant and manufacturing facilities, security operations, and communications involving crane operators as well as Emergency Assistance Crew members. New groups of employees (dispatched by clients or external fitters) that temporarily join the team can also be rapidly included in the communication system.

Oman Middle East and Germany partner to support BP T.E.S.S. FZCO in Dubai and Oman-based Suhail Bahwan Group have been awarded the contract to deliver TETRA infrastructure and services for a new Oil & Gas installation in the Sultanate of Oman. The TETRA system will be delivered to British Petroleum in Oman, who have been awarded the right to appraise and develop gas from the Khazzan and Makarem contract area in central Oman which extends to approximately 2800 sq km.



The TETRA-over-IP system consists of system equipment and special software applications from. UTOB GmbH. T.E.S.S. FZCO is the technical service provider and operates as an integration partner on site.

Spain Ibiza Airport takes Telvent TETRA Telvent is implementing a project for Aena – Aeropuertos Españoles y Navegación Aérea, the Spanish airport manager – aiming at expanding the TETRA system deployed by Telvent in 2006. The continuous increase in the number of operations in Ibiza Airport has led to the need to grow the TETRA service through a portable system.

The extension will enable a backup system in case of any incidental critical failure in the current TETRA system and provide the capability for delivering TETRA coverage to areas out of reach of the usual operation area in case of emergency.

A new recording system will register all the voice and data communications processed in the network, turning into a basic tool to analyse airport activity.

New comms system for Burgos City Council

Telvent, together with its consortium partner Keyland, has signed a contract with the Burgos City Council to update its mobile radio communication network with a TETRA digital system. Telvent technology will replace the current analogue radio communication network and will serve the police, the fire brigades and the civil defence, providing them with secure and encrypted voice and data mobile communications.

The new emergency control room will become the core component of the operational management of the city of Burgos, which will be provided with a centralised service centre.

Integrated network management solution

IAP solutions has launched Version 2.7 of its IAPTeNMS solution, designed for integrated TETRA network management. This new version offers a management platform for multi-vendor networks focused on a complete alarm and monitoring platform, full network inventory, fleet management and reporting portal.

IAPTeNMS v2.7 aims to unify all technologies that are performing in the network: TETRA radio network, transport networks (PDH, transmission networks), IP/MPLS services networks, office equipments, network servers (DNS, DHCP), power electronics (UPS, generators, rectifiers), and other equipment within the network base station. To provide a complete end-to-end service management, the system also manages end-user terminal networks.

UK Oldham council enters the digital age

The DAMM TetraFlex® multi site solution has been chosen by Oldham Council to launch a Public Private Partnership scheme to deliver a digital radio network for both the authority and local businesses. The solution will be implemented by DAMM's System Partner, Arqiva.

The five-year deal is the first of its kind for a UK local authority and will benefit the business community with capacity for approximately 1,000 radio users across the borough including businesses such as couriers, taxi companies and private security firms.

New strategic alliance for emergency vehicle solutions

Microbus has joined forces with Carnation Designs to offer the public safety market a one-stop source for in-vehicle mobile computing and auxiliary electronics control. Microbus' rugged vehicle-based PC technology and Carnation Designs' genisys electronic management system form a package to meet the advanced electronics requirements of the latest emergency service vehicles.

Panorama launches Ultra Wideband Ceiling Mount Antenna

Designed to support a multi-service, multi-operator wireless environment, the Panorama CMWB-038-6 operates on the full wireless spectrum, from 380MHz through to 6GHz in a single antenna. Businesses and facilities can support multi-service / multi-operator wireless coverage. Any number or combination of services are supported – including TETRA UHF, GSM 400, AWS 700MHz, Quadband GSM, 3G UMTS, 2.4GHz WLAN, LTE & WiMAX etc., providing in-building service providers and DAS installers with a 'one size fits all' solution. The antenna delivers wireless coverage in multi-building campus sites, high-rise offices or large complexes such as airports.



Italy DAMM's TetraFlex® chosen for Lodi's Public Safety

The Emergency Service (118) in Lodi in the province of Lombardy region has chosen DAMM's TetraFlex® multi site TETRA solution for its critical communications throughout the entire province. The system was commissioned through GEG Telecomunicazioni, a System Partner of DAMM. The system integrates with several other systems at the Centre of Operation. This connects the entire emergency service organization, including offices at all decentralized locations. The DAMM system supports 20 dispatcher stations and integrated recording of all data and voice communication.

Malaysia Launch of 1Network At the Langkawi International Maritime and Aerospace Exhibition, the Prime Minister of Malaysia, Datuk Seri Mohd Najib Tun Razak launched the new digital infrastructure 1Network using a Sepura SRH TETRA hand-held radio. 1Network was developed by Sapura, Sepura's strategic partner in Malaysia.

1Network can integrate communications, information, resources and assets of various organisations into one unified platform, enabling faster communication links and improving operations. A major critical component of 1Network is the Government Integrated Radio Network (GIRN) - also developed by Sapura - which is the secure nationwide TETRA network currently used by more than ten Malaysian government agencies.

The Netherlands Marine contractor makes TETRA choice

Heerema Zwijsdrecht BV, a leading marine contractor in the offshore oil and gas industry,

TETRA Events 2010

| Event | Date | Location | Organiser | Website |
|---|-----------|---|--|--|
| TETRA Workshop | 10 March | Las Vegas, USA | IWCE/TETRA Association | See www.iwceexpo.com Nicola.morrison@tetra-association.com |
| TETRA for Turkey | 28 April | Hilton Hotel, Ankara, Turkey | TETRA Association | See www.tetra-association.com |
| ASTRID User Days | 20-21 May | Tour & Taxis, Brussels, Belgium | ASTRID | See www.astriddays.be |
| TETRA World Congress | 25-27 May | Suntec Singapore International Convention and Exhibition Centre | IIR and TETRA Association | See www.tetraworldcongress.com enquiries@tetraworldcongress.com |
| TETRA moving forward in Poland | 8 July | Warsaw, Poland | TETRA Association | Please contact Nicola.morrison@tetra-association.com |
| TETRA moving forward in Argentina | September | Buenos Aires, Argentina | TETRA Association | Please contact Nicola.morrison@tetra-association.com |
| TETRA moving forward in Brazil | September | Rio de Janeiro, Brazil | TETRA Association | Please contact Nicola.morrison@tetra-association.com |
| TETRA roadshow | October | China | China Trunking Forum/ TETRA Association | Please contact Nicola.morrison@tetra-association.com |
| TETRA moving forward in India | November | Mumbai, India | TETRA Association | Please contact Nicola.morrison@tetra-association.com |
| TETRA moving forward in India | November | Bangalore, India | TETRA Association | Please contact Nicola.morrison@tetra-association.com |
| TETRA moving forward in MENA (Middle East/North Africa) | December | To be confirmed | TETRA Association | Please contact Nicola.morrison@tetra-association.com |

Please see www.tetra-association.com for updates.

If you have any queries concerning the Events schedule, please contact nicola.morrison@tetra-association.com

Kidner's Corner

Each year the TETRA Association, in partnership with IIR, holds its flagship event, TETRA World Congress (TWC). This year, from the 25th to 27th May, it will be in Singapore. Up to a hundred exhibitors and over 2000 delegates participate.

Not everyone can get to TWC so we organise other events in various regions of the world. These are either our own events or events in partnership with other organisations. In addition we sometimes organise workshops to address particular topics or issues. All the latest information on all the events is always on our website.



**Phil Kidner, CEO,
TETRA Association**

The "next events" are promoted to the front page for your convenience.

This year the theme of our events is "TETRA moving forward". These one-day events consist of a conference targeted at a particular country or region and an exhibition, showcasing most of the leading TETRA manufacturers and suppliers. As well as seeing their latest equipment and being able to ask questions on a one-to-one basis, there are many

networking opportunities throughout the day.

Everyone is welcome to participate in these events, as an exhibitor, as a sponsor, as a speaker or as a delegate. Bring your colleagues, customers, users and other contacts. The events are free to all delegates that register in advance. Typically registration is open two months in advance. Find the event on the website, and you will find the registration.

You will be able to find the event nearest to you on the website but remember that we add further events throughout the year – so keep checking!

I look forward to seeing you there!

Showing in Las Vegas

Teltronic, the Spanish based manufacturer of TETRA infrastructure and terminals, has a reputation for innovation and the integration of TETRA with other digital technologies. The company's TETRA/WiMax development reported in previous issues is a case in point. Now Teltronic is making efforts to make TETRA technology available in North America.

The company is known as PowerTrunk in the US, and will be exhibiting at IWCE In Las Vegas. Having received type approval for its equipment from FCC and Industry Canada, Teltronic is committed to opening up the North American market to TETRA, as well as developing a P25 line of products – using the same hardware platform as its proven TETRA solution – to offer the public safety community in USA and Canada.

More information on products and companies in this edition can be found at www.tetra-association.com

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TETRA News: Comments and contributions welcomed – please send to: editor@tetra-association.com

For any other information please contact the TETRA Association's administration office by email: administration@tetra-association.com or visit the Association's website at www.tetra-association.com

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Europe's Broadband Spectrum Strategy

European agencies are working to establish a harmonized frequency band for public-safety broadband services.

By Thomas Weber

The European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI) started the process of identifying additional spectrum in Europe for future public safety and security (PSS) wireless communication systems in the UHF frequency range. TETRA is well established and in daily operation in many European countries as the public protection (PP) wireless communications system with hundreds of mission-critical and business-critical organizations in Europe. The popular application of TETRA is mission-critical group calls. In addition, TETRA has an extensive list of special functions for professional users, which together with the special voice handling in the networks, are unique.

One thing TETRA could do better is more data. TETRA Enhanced Data

Service (TEDS) is just around the corner and will deliver 10-fold more data throughput than TETRA's release 1. However, more data throughput requires more radio spectrum. Spectrum regulation for TEDS is completed in European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT) countries, and users can apply for spectrum from their national regulators in Europe.

Securing spectrum takes the longest lead time of any issue for a new technology. For that reason, a number of user organizations initiated work to access additional spectrum for even higher speed data services allocated for PSS. Consequently, ETSI began creation of an ETSI system reference document, ETSI TR 102 628, a spectrum

request addressed to the CEPT. This is the official tool under the memorandum of understanding (MoU) between ETSI and CEPT Electronic Communications Committee (ECC) to convey new spectrum requests to the spectrum regulators in Europe.

The effort is led by ETSI's Technical Committee TETRA. The proposal is aimed at establishing a dedicated, harmonized European spectrum designation for public protection and disaster relief (PPDR) mission-critical public-safety and emergency communications. The proposed resource would be harmonized spectrum across Europe, allowing interoperable and permanent PPDR networks to be established somewhere in the 300 – 790 MHz band including the Digital Dividend band — preferably in the lower parts

Study Outlines Europe's PPDR High-Speed Data Spectrum Needs

A report from Analysys Mason released in March addresses the need for public-safety dedicated spectrum for high-speed data applications in Europe.

TETRA and Tetrapol networks in the 380 – 400 MHz band offer a range of low-rate data services, but the speed and capacity available within those networks limits the more widespread use of higher speed data applications, the consultancy said in a statement. "In line with increasing demand for access to information on the move, public-safety operations are becoming more information driven, requiring access to a broader range of wideband and broadband applications," Analysys Mason researchers said. "These include high-quality imaging, uploading and downloading large data files and real-time video."

Researchers said a new generation of solutions will be required across Europe in the next five to 10 years. Such solutions, if delivered using new, dedicated mobile broadband networks designed to deliver public protection and disaster relief (PPDR) applications, will require additional spectrum to deliver the services required.

Analysys Mason defined four possible evolution paths for the future demand of mobile broadband applications within the public-safety sector as part of the study. Consideration of these different evolution paths demonstrated that the capabilities of current narrow-



band and wideband dedicated mobile networks used by the public-safety sector will not be sufficient to meet future requirements under three or four evolution paths defined. The only evolution path that could be accommodated by existing networks is the "steady growth" path. However, this isn't sustainable in the longer term, because there is growing evidence of trends and changes in working methods that suggest that it will not meet future demands.

A summary of the four alternative evolution paths and their impact on network requirements is provided on the TETRA Association Web site. The association commissioned Analysys Mason to gather the information based on existing documents and reports recently published in Europe.

The options for delivering this new generation of services include making use of upgraded commercial networks using HSPA+/Long Term Evolution

(LTE) technology with network deployment modified to meet the specific operational requirements of the public-safety sector, or developing a new generation of dedicated mobile broadband networks for exclusive public-safety use.

The study found that, in line with trends already identified, a diverse range of data, imaging and multimedia applications are in demand within the public-safety sector. The types of applications required are not generally

available in commercial mobile networks. Sharing of data types between agencies and between field and central command staff is being used to establish and maintain a common operational understanding throughout the sector.

The evolution paths modeled illustrate the public-safety sector's need for a next generation of mobile broadband network to deliver the range of applications that are envisaged for the future, the report said. As there is a limit to the range and volume of data and multimedia applications that existing dedicated narrowband and wideband networks, and existing commercial networks, can provide, if a new generation of mobile broadband network is not made available, some new applications cannot be delivered. Ultimately, this will affect how emerging working practices might evolve within the public-safety sector and, in the longer term, constrain the further development of the sector.

of the band. European Union (EU) member states are switching from analog to digital television. The switch will free spectrum primarily in the UHF band, called the Digital Dividend. It is proposed that a PPDR network would cater to all narrow-

band, wideband and broadband public-safety applications requiring wide-area coverage.

The emphasis of this new proposal is on spectrum within the tuning range of technology used for wideband and broadband applications.

The following factors are important:

1. The high-speed data emergency communications services assume a high priority in European spectrum designation;
2. The requested band is a Europeanwide asset for PPDR networks

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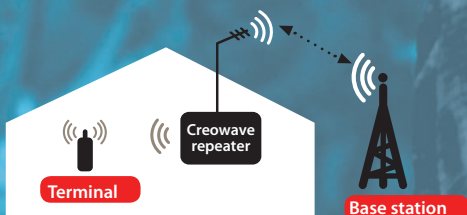
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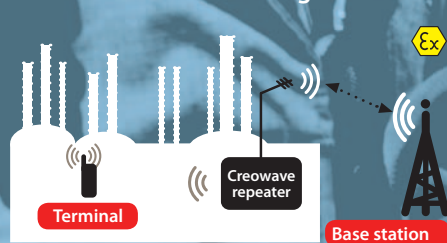
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Typical and Future Spectrum Requirements for Public-Safety Systems

| Channel Type | Number of Channels | Total Spectrum (MHz Paired Bands) |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Narrowband | 120 network wide; 10 per site | 2 x 5 (existing allocation) |
| New Narrowband | 120 network wide; 6 per site | 2 x 3 |
| New Wideband | 20 network wide; 2 per site | 2 x 3 |
| New Broadband | 1 network wide and per site | 2 x 10 |
| Total New Requirement | | 2 x 16 |

Source: Draft ETSI TR 102 628

ETSI suggests that the CEPT ECC make its new decisions on future PPDR spectrum before the end of 2011 to allow manufacturers time to have equipment in the market by 2013.

and isn't subject to criteria used in spectrum designation for commercial consumer networks and services like auctions;

3. This band is to be designated on a dedicated (and protected) basis;

4. This band is for harmonized

use (interoperable) across Europe.

The CEPT ECC is requested to consider harmonized availability and use of the radio spectrum for PSS as detailed in the ETSI document. A first ECC action was to send a questionnaire about the radio spectrum

demand for public-safety systems.

The ECC working group on frequency management developed the questionnaire, which was sent to spectrum regulators, as well as PPDR authorities, PPDR operators and industry officials. Based on the

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This proposal is aimed at establishing a dedicated, harmonized European spectrum designation for mission-critical public-safety and emergency communications.

responses received, the working group on frequency management in CEPT ECC identified the following conclusions:

- The use of existing and new data applications (high-speed data) by PPDR users will increase rapidly;

- Increased data use, especially for mission-critical communications, will have a significant effect on the frequency need and justifies requirements for additional spectrum;

- There are many requirements and conditions for the use of PPDR, which lead to the need to use dedicated PPDR networks. However, in addition to the dedicated networks, commercial/public networks are and

will also be used for non-mission-critical data applications.

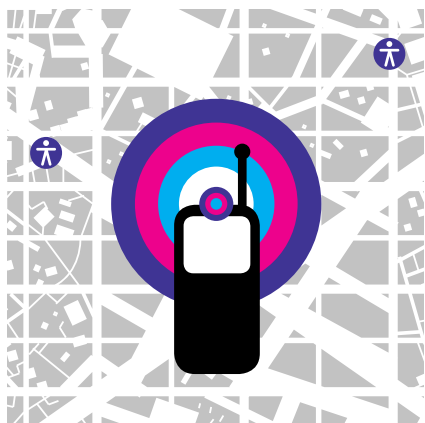
To progress with PPDR issues, an ECC workshop was organized in March in Mainz at Germany's Federal Network Agency. CEPT ECC assumes that ETSI will take the results of the workshop into account when producing the final version of the ETSI system reference document by mid-2010. ETSI suggests that the CEPT ECC will make its new decisions on future PPDR spectrum before the end of 2011 to allow manufacturers sufficient time to have equipment in the market by 2013.

In addition, the EU has been active on the subject and recently approved

the Justice and Home Affairs Council Recommendation 10141/09 on improving radio communications between operational units in border areas. This new recommendation concludes that law-enforcement and public-safety radio communications systems will need to support and to exchange high-speed mobile data information beyond the capabilities of current networks, and a common technology standard operating in a harmonized frequency band created by ETSI will make this possible.

Consequently, the recommendation suggests that the ECC be tasked to study the possibility of obtaining sufficient additional frequency allocations below 1 GHz for the development of future law-enforcement and public-safety networks. ■

Thomas Weber is executive officer at the Federal Network Agency in Germany.
E-mail comments to thomas_j.weber@bnetza.de.



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3

Critical Steps to Frequency Planning

Three steps can help economically design RF hardware with minimum interference and risk at frequencies below 700 MHz.

By Bryan Corley

Images courtesy Motorola

Engineering RF hardware and choosing the frequency plan at 700 and 800 MHz involve basic decisions that are relatively risk free. The situation below 700 MHz is completely different. Frequency planning below 700 MHz involves using frequency plans that can have little or no guard bands and can involve hostile spectrum. Both of these issues create a design situation that must be evaluated carefully and site-by-site. In the past, RF system design for the

lower frequency bands involved determining the frequencies available and then forcing them into the hardware, like fitting a shoe two sizes too small. When it succeeded, the price tag wasn't only an expensive RF design, but also compromised the valuable real estate of the equipment room.

A better approach involves understanding the complexity of lower frequency bands and designing the frequency plans around the actual spectrum, hardware available and possible interference. There are three steps to successfully and economically design RF hardware with minimum interference and risk at the lower frequency bands.

1. Understand the Spectrum Site-by-Site

Carefully understanding the spectrum environment of every site allows an engineer to choose compro-

mises carefully and minimize risk during the design phase. Mission-critical design requires minimizing risk and delivering reliable communications when needed.

To minimize risk, the spectrum must be empirically measured to fully understand the spectrum environment at the site. Every site presents different influences and spectrum considerations. Theoretical design provides significant risk to high-level carrier interference, as well as environmental noise that is prevalent at lower frequencies. To fully understand the risk, both of these influences must be measured at every site.

High-level carriers. Carriers above a certain threshold can create interference to the dynamic range of the receiver and reduce coverage. These carriers must be reduced with proper filtering; however, before they can be reduced, they must be

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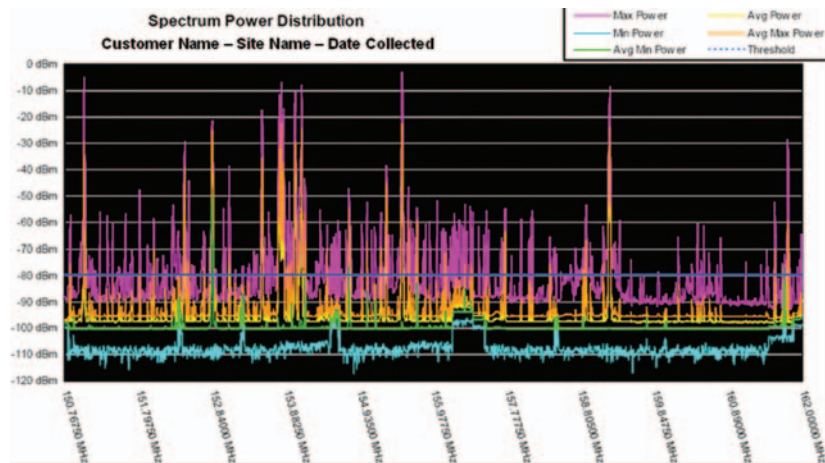
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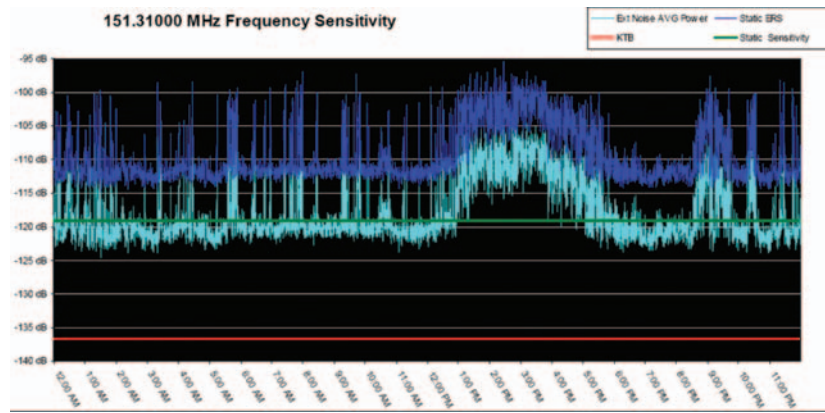
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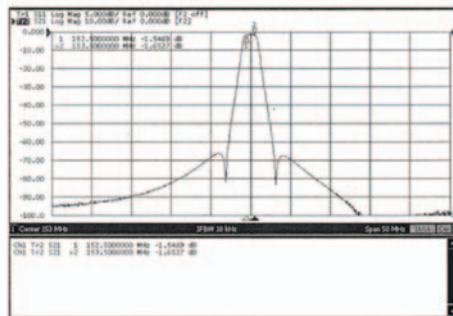
With typical spectrum finger printing, every carrier can easily be analyzed and high-level carriers identified.

Noise Floor Monitoring



A typical output of noise floor monitoring where the noise increases over time, and the exact characteristic is easily understood.

New Filter and Sample Curve



This figure demonstrates the selectivity that can be obtained from one new filter design.

identified and the risk established. Unless they are properly classified, unnecessary filtering or inadequate

filtering may be applied. High-level carriers are related to transmitters collocated on site or nearby and must be

understood with measurement. Some engineers have attempted to substitute licensing searches for this step, but have failed. The most reliable way to fully understand the carriers present is to measure them. Reliable measurement requires measurement over long periods of time and accurate measurement of the level and duty cycle.

Complete understanding of interference risk is related to evaluating three components: RF level, duty cycle and duration of the interference. If an interferer is below the receive noise floor, of very short duration or occurs infrequently, it won't present a risk. One process that performs this service is spectrum finger printing. Spectrum finger printing uses fast computer control of RF monitoring equipment to examine every possible channel within a certain span of frequencies, allowing thousands of frequencies or channels to be monitored in one session. The carrier levels are collected and reported in reference to the channel bandwidth of a receiver so the engineer understands the levels as the receiver sees them.

Noise level within the channel. Noise that falls on the channel frequency can be interference, environmental or external carrier related. The common component is degradation in sensitivity or coverage deterioration. As the noise or interference increases, the amount of signal required for reliable communications must increase. It's imperative that the level of external noise or interference be fully understood. Each decibel of noise above receiver noise will cause degradation to coverage. This degradation can't be prevented or corrected within the infrastructure with filtering or amplification. There is only one resolution to external interference — elimination at the source.

Trunked systems require all channels to perform identically. A subscriber must see the same sensitivity on all channels. To ensure a frequency is compatible with trunking, the noise floor must be measured. There is no substitute to measuring the noise floor. Only after measuring all

frequencies can the system be evaluated for noise and interference balance. While theoretical noise numbers have been released, they only establish a baseline for theoretical coverage. Every site, frequency and design will have different noise characteristics. At lower frequencies, the risk of external noise increases. To have reliable communications, the actual noise or interference levels must be understood and considered in the coverage design.

Mission-critical systems require empirically derived noise and interference to be integrated into every site design to fully understand the reliability. One collection process, noise floor monitoring, uses a computer-controlled collection system that emulates a receiver and allows for direct collection of noise power levels down to -126 dBm. This noise collection depth is required to fully understand the impact of external interference to actual infrastructure sensitivity. Using



The biggest risk of interference comes from inside the transmit combiner and transmit network, where the highest signal levels reside.

an actual receiver to measure the noise floor is effective only for that frequency and during the short period of time measured, and it requires a subjective evaluation. Noise floor monitoring can collect up to 100 frequencies rapidly and provide analysis of each frequency during 24 hours. It's important to note that noise isn't consistent over time. To fully understand the noise, it should be measured for a long duration. Testing has shown that measurements over a 24-hour

period provide a reliable understanding of operational reliability.

2. Develop the Frequency Plan to the Hardware

Design the frequency plan to the hardware available, not the hardware to the frequency plan. Default designs and simple guidelines will allow the frequency plans to adapt to the hardware. This will simplify the hardware requirements, as well as reduce the risk of interference. Developing

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Complete understanding of interference risk is related to evaluating RF level, duty cycle and duration of the interference.

hardware designs aimed at predetermined guard bands and bandwidths allows efficient filter designs to be used and reduces the cost of RF filtering without reducing selectivity.

New filter designs allow for high selectivity with little insertion loss. Using a new filter design as the preselector and then supplementing it with another after the amplifier provides the foundation for selectivity of more than 65 dB with as little as 1 megahertz of guard band. The best part of this filter design is its ability to be moved up or down the band, while maintaining the performance of the design. This approach provides better selectivity, smaller footprint and lower cost compared with conventional filter designs. The major drawback to this design is that the

selectivity and band-pass width are fixed and can't be adjusted. This requires the engineer to ensure the frequency plan fits the hardware design. In the past, the engineer and frequency planner would choose their frequencies and then design the hardware to conform, which was expensive, and in most cases, required large rack footprints to accommodate.

3. Establish and Maintain Basic Rules of Interference Compatibility

Designing the hardware and frequency plans to the interference standards significantly reduces the risk of interference. The biggest risk of interference comes from inside the transmit combiner and transmit network. This is where the highest signal levels

reside, and interference produced in the transmit network can be of sufficient level to radiate into collocated receivers. Risk is also associated with transmit networks that have multiple carriers present. To prevent creating interference, the engineer must establish and follow basic rules of prevention. Some sample rules are:

- No third-order products allowed on site;
- Always use high passive intermodulation (PIM)-rated RF components after the combiner;
- Always use 7-16 DIN connectors on RF components;
- Properly torque all associated connectors; and
- Maintain a wider guard band than bandwidth in the frequency plan.

Design below 700 MHz is difficult and shouldn't be performed without a specific plan and data. It's important to spend more time and effort upfront because the cost of resolution, re-tuning and re-design is more expensive than prevention and understanding in the beginning.

Frequency planners who bypass some of the recommendations often suffer severe problems and deterioration. The goal of these recommendations is to allow a system to be installed and be fully operational with few changes. It's important to note that the lower frequency bands aren't stable. They can and will change over time, causing the noise floor and spectrum environment to change. To ensure stability in a mission-critical system, it's strongly recommended that a regular program of spectrum monitoring on all frequencies at major sites be established. This will allow problems to be recognized before they affect operation. ■

Bryan Corley has been involved in interference mitigation, RF design, system integration and other special RF projects for more than 30 years with Motorola. He partners with most major manufacturers to influence the industry, as well as advance the hardware available. E-mail comments to b.corley@motorola.com.

Definitions of RF Terms

Guard band. The frequency separation between the closest transmit and receive frequencies. This is the area where selectivity is developed for isolation.

Bandwidth. The frequency separation between the lowest receive frequency and the highest receive frequency in the same group. This is normally the bandwidth used in a band-pass filter.

Duty Cycle. Relationship between the amount of time a carrier is active versus inactive. The higher the duty cycle of a transmitter, the longer it is transmitting. A continuously keyed transmitter would have a 100 percent duty cycle.

Noise Floor. The noise floor is classified as the highest noise possible that must be overcome with signal for operation. This noise can be a function of environmental noise, interference or co-channel carriers. A specific amount of signal relative to the noise floor is

required for reliable communications and is referenced as C/I+N where C is the amount of carrier and I+N is the uncorrelated signal level of interference and noise present.

Receiver Dynamic Range. The dynamic range of the receiver is the difference between the lowest signal (sensitivity) and the highest off-frequency signal that produces noticeable degradation. The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) defines this as the point where the noise floor of the receiver rises by 3 dB when a strong off-frequency signal is applied.

Passive Intermodulation (PIM). Intermodulation created in passive components such as connectors and antennas. These components contain small impurities, which can produce intermodulation. The lower the intermodulation products, the higher the PIM rating. High-quality components are generally rated at greater than 150 dBc.

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TerraStat Charge Dissipation Terminals use the point discharge principle to reduce the accumulation and concentration of electrical charge that causes



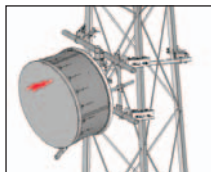
upward streamers to propagate. The terminals delay the formation of upward streamers critical to the completion of a lightning strike,

Alltec executives said. The high-grade stainless steel constructed terminals are lightweight and easy to install, corrosion resistant and offer low-wind loading. The products feature a large selection of mounting hardware and are UL listed.

www.allteccorp.com

Andrew Solutions

Andrew's Tower Face mount kits offer universal face mounting and are an ideal mounting solution for installing



microwave antennas on the face of straight or tapered lattice towers, Andrew executives said. Each kit con-

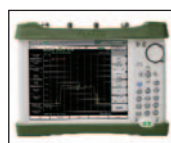
tains universal saddle mounts for mounting to straight or tapered round legs or 60- and 90-degree angle legs. Each mount contains specially designed sliding channels to accommodate taper adjustments for a true vertical mounting solution. The kit is shipped complete with saddle mounts, taper adjustment chan-

nels, horizontal pipes, antenna mounting pipe and all necessary hardware. All components are hot-dip galvanized for maximum corrosion protection.

www.commscope.com/andrew

Anritsu

The E Platform for Anritsu's line of handheld analyzers features integrated functionality in a robust, lightweight, field-proven design that provides field personnel with all the tools necessary to deploy, maintain and troubleshoot demanding wireless equipment and networks, com-



pany officials said. The platform is designed into Anritsu's Site Master, Spectrum Master and

Cell Master analyzers. All of the analyzers are lightweight and have the functionality of multiple instruments, and feature an intuitive user interface and high-quality construction, officials said.

www.us.anritsu.com

Bird Technologies Group

Site Analyzer series is a user-friendly test solution for installing, maintaining and troubleshooting antenna and cable systems. The SA-6000EX provides users



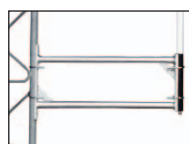
with a diagnostic range from 25 MHz to 6 GHz. The broad bandwidth capability increases the num-

ber of diagnostic applications that can be supported by a single field unit. The line provides up to 500 traces, a VSWR range of 1 to 99.99, operating temperature range from -10 to +50 degrees Celsius and immunity to on-channel interference (+13 dBm).

www.bird-technologies.com

Comtelco Antennas

Comtelco's Tower Side Mount Kit was designed for use with Comtelco XL series base stations. The heavy-duty side



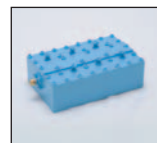
mounts feature a galvanized finish. Each kit is supplied with 4.45-centimeter stainless U-bolts for

easy installation on a Rohn 45-type tower. For a larger tower leg, stainless steel strapping (not supplied) can be used.

www.comtelcoantennas.com

Creowave

Creowave's radio testing business offers a variety of filtering solutions that include



products for spurious emissions, multiband testing and passive intermodulation measurements (PIM). The

filter collection consists of diplexers, duplexers, band pass filters, band stop filters and high pass filters. The filters may reduce the number of test runs and cable changes in the final tester environment, as well as prevent and remove unwanted signals, thus enabling the wanted signals to enter the test systems.

www.creowave.com

Davicom

Davicom MAC systems remotely monitor and control transmitter sites to reduce operating costs and downtime. Real-time



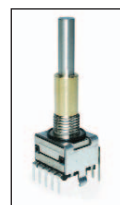
site information, like transmitter status, RF power, antenna VSWR, audio/video

levels, main power presence and temperature status can be accessed easily. The units provide automation with decision-making features and commands that go beyond conventional telemetry systems, Davicom executives said.

www.davicom.com

Elma Electronic

Elma Electronic offers the E37 dual concentric encoder, which features a dual concentric inner shaft and outer pole,



allowing the product to act as two encoders. The encoder can save the space and cost of a second separate switch, Elma officials said. The encoder comes

with or without an integrated push button and features a rugged metal housing and shaft. The series offers optional IP68 front-panel sealing and an operating temperature range of

-40 to +85 degrees Celsius. The series comes with 16 or 32 detents in standard resolution.

www.elma.com

Fiplex Communications

The Fiplex low-band duplexer DHV0544 is the smallest high-power duplexer in the market for the 25 – 55 MHz band,



company officials said. Capable of handling 150 watts continuous wave (CW),

the duplexer provides more than 90 dB rejection with low insertion loss and a minimum transmission (TX) to receive (RX) separation of 1 Megahertz. The duplexer fits in standard 19-inch racks with only two rack units (RU). Temperature compensation technology enables the duplexer to work at extreme conditions without performance degradation.

www.fiplex.com

General Dynamics Satcom Technologies

Now featuring comprehensive, digital Project 25 (P25), NXDN and Digital Mobile Radio (MOTOTRBO) test capability, the



General Dynamics R8000 analyzer is a portable, full-featured radio test set. The analyzer weighs 6.35

kilograms and features a spectrum analyzer that is comparable to expensive stand-alone instruments, company executives said. The analyzer offers a noise floor of less than -120 dBm.

www.gdsatcom.com/cte.php

Lightning Eliminators & Consultants (LEC)

Towers can be protected from lightning by using the Dissipation Array System (DAS), Spline Ball Ionizers (SBIs) or a combination of the two. LEC Chem-Rods



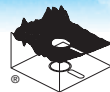
can also be used for tower grounding. The DAS is a multipoint ionizer system that will prevent lightning strikes to the tower by interrupting the formation of streamers. The SBI is a

www.RRIimag.com

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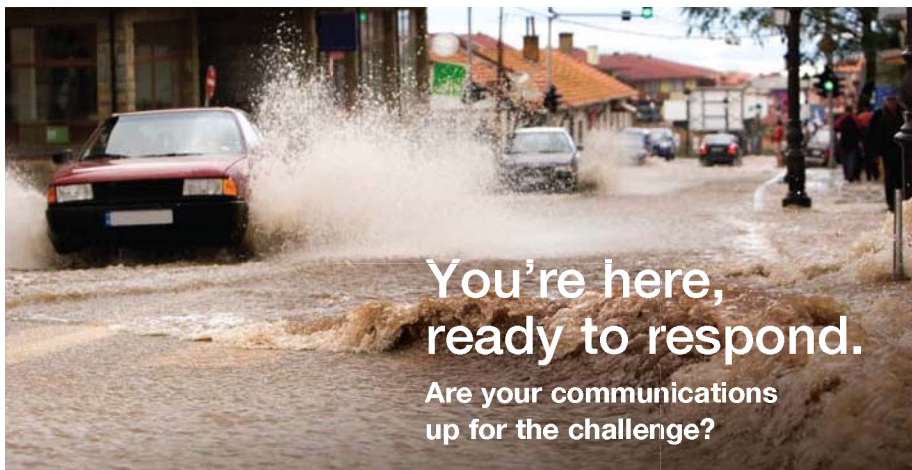
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Site and Test Equipment

multipoint air terminal that uses the same prevention principles as the DAS. The Chem-Rod is a chemically activated grounding electrode that produces a low impedance earth connection.

www.lecglobal.com

Locus Location Systems

DiagnostX is an over-the-air testing system that offers early detection of potential mobile and portable radio transmission problems, narrowband performance verification and diagnostics in trunked and conventional radio networks. The system

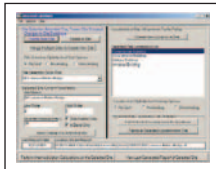


can be installed in any location where a receive antenna can be mounted, or it can coexist at any established radio site. The system identifies poorly operating radios by performing calculations related to radio performance and stores the historical records in the system database. The over-the-air-technician assists the radio service shop by constantly monitoring the radios from a hardware perspective and ensuring operational readiness, company officials said.

www.locususa.com

Midian Electronics

InterMod Calculator software predicts the possible occurrence of intermodulation products that may cause receiver interference at a repeater site. The software tests for odd and/or even order products caused



by the mixing of multiple transmitters at a given site in a nonlinear device. A non-modulated signal

may not produce a direct hit. Therefore, a deviation window is provided to take into account modulated signals that are multiplied/mixed, and sweep across the channel. The InterMod can be used with a PC to solve intermodulation interference problems at radio repeater and cellular sites.

www.midians.com

Optoelectronics

The VS5800 video sweeper detects wireless cameras in the 1.2, 2.4 and 5.8 GHz



frequency bands, while scanning all available video frequencies in about 30 seconds. If audio is present on the targeted camera, the sweeper will demodu-

late the audio through the speaker output. The product has three A/V outputs and an earphone output. The sweeper works with NTSC or phase alternating line/SECAM systems and has both an automatic and manual scan mode.

www.optoelectronics.com

PageTek

PageTek added networking capability to its ProTek+ line of alarm and monitoring units. Networking allows the user to telnet into the unit to check on status or pro-



gram the unit. It also provides alerting capability to other network devices by transmission control

protocol (TCP), to pagers via simple network paging protocol (SNPP) or to e-mail via simple mail transfer protocol (SMTP). The product line consists of the ProTek-Tor+, a compact unit providing eight monitoring points; the ProTek jr+ that monitors 12 points; and the ProTek 24+ that monitors up to 104 points. All modules network with the firm's central collection and control system.

www.pagetek.net

Powerwave Technologies

Optimized to support forthcoming European Digital Dividend frequencies, Powerwave's new Twin 700 tower-mounted amplifiers provide wireless operators with



a compact solution for improving base station receive sensitivity by helping reduce dropped call rates and improving

uplink data rates for an improved user experience, company executives said. In addition to high power in a small package, the amplifier reduces installation costs and complexity by minimizing tower loading, providing customers with a low

total cost of ownership over the life of the product, executives said.

www.powerwave.com

RF Industries

RF Neulink, a division of RF Industries, introduced the NL5500 data transceiver



series for licensed conventional radios in the VHF and UHF frequency ranges.

The transceiver

offers the capability for transparent and direct asynchronous communications. The transceiver is fully compatible with the company's NL6000 and is field configurable as a master or remote.

www.rfindustries.com

Sabre Site Solutions

Sabre Site Solutions' Wireless Components and Site Accessories catalog offers wireless components and pre-engineered



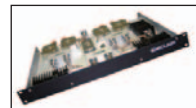
towers. New products include Click and Go cable trays, ULTRA boom and a newly designed,

expandable low-profile platform. The catalog features a full line of coax and grounding accessories, along with pre-engineered lightweight towers. Sabre Site Solutions offers phone, fax or online ordering.

www.sabresitesolutions.com

Sinclair Technologies

Sinclair's TCC series compact hybrid ferrite combiners combine solutions for systems requiring close frequency separation



and space-efficient racking. The combiner is assembled on a 1U high tray. Each

unit allows two or four 60-watt transmitters to be combined with one antenna. The UHF and 700/800/900 MHz band TCC line features broad bandwidth that can combine a wide range of transmitter frequencies. The frequencies can be changed without having to retune the combiners. The VHF band line offers a bandwidth of 3 Megahertz that can be adjusted within 5 Megahertz of the factory-tuned frequency.

www.sinctech.com

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Site and Test Equipment

SoftWright

SoftWright announced an RF modeling tool that integrates the Terrain Analysis Package (TAP) software with Google Earth to show radio links and coverage in 3D. Using the software, an engineer can fly down a path and see areas causing signal deterioration. Coverage maps can



be viewed with all the capability of Google Earth. The package can be used on Windows XP/Vista to evaluate radio transmitter sites; predict radio coverage, administer intermodulation studies and radio transmitter sites; and design multichannel multiprint distribution service (MMDS), PCS, supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA), wireless local loop (WLL), Wi-Fi, WiMAX, microwave, paging, air-to-ground, ship-to-shore and conventional two-way radio systems.

www.softwright.com

Spectracom

The Pendulum Path Align-R is a complete system designed for microwave path alignment. Fast, accurate and easy to use, the system provides alignment results in less than 20 minutes without radio or power on site. The system documents all calculations with proof of date, time, location and actual path loss.



Align-R can align at distances up to 160 kilometers and now features a cold pack battery, Drag-onwave adapters and 15 GHz band.

www.spectracomcorp.com

Spinner

Spinner's new product range includes SPINNERFlex feeder cables, FlexGround earthing sets and three types of FlexFix cable brackets. In close cooperation with the world's leading cable manufacturer,



Zhuhai Hansen Technology, Spinner offers a broad range of SPINNERFlex corrugated copper cables. The FlexTool

assembly tools and FlexSeal sealing elements complete the product range.

www.spinner-group.com

Survey Technologies Inc. (STI)

STI Field Test 6 software is equipped with the Project 25 (P25) bit error rate (BER) test mobile. About once every second, the P25 test mobile sends RF signal strength and the BER calculation of the P25 signal tested and logs this data with



GPS location. Invaluable information about the coverage and quality of P25 signal propagation can be gathered, and critical communications coverage can be verified,

STI officials said. Mobile radios with P25 BER capability are available for VHF, UHF, 700 and 800 MHz P25 frequencies.

www.surveyttech.com

TC Communications

Connecting emergency dispatch centers and remote radio transmitters and receivers is a critical site tower application. TC Communications offers TDM and Ethernet solutions for linking or extending 2/4 wire analog, audio and intercom devices: the TC8000 28-channel fiber multiplexer and the TC3846 analog and dry contact Ethernet gateway. Benefits include improving voice quality, increasing system reliability in harsh environments,



replacing unreliable leased phone circuits and stabilizing voice level settings for 600 ohms audio channels. Both products support voice bandwidths from 300 hertz to 3.4 kilohertz, feature hot-swappable interface cards, offer fiber optic and power redundancy, and are available in extreme temperature versions.

www.tccomm.com

Telewave

Telewave's compact UHF duplexers enable a transmitter and receiver to operate simultaneously with a single antenna.

The duplexers provide at least 90 dB of isolation between transmission (TX) and receive (RX), providing maximum receiver protection. Insertion loss is typically 1 dB,



with standard frequency separation of 5 Megahertz, and minimum separation of 2.6 Megahertz over 380 – 512 MHz. The duplexers are constructed with an Invar rod, silver-plated tuners and a quarter-inch welded top plate for high performance and reliability.

www.telewave.com

Willtek Communications

Following the success of the TETRA mobile radio test application, Willtek's 2303 Stabilock is available with a BS test option now. Network operators use the



instrument to frequently ensure that the base station's

transmitter and receiver maintain the required performance over time and variations of temperature and humidity. The tester is lightweight with a high-contrast display and can be operated from a battery.

www.willtek.com/tetra

Xcel Control

The CPS series is a versatile tower lighting controller that can handle all tower sizes, even towers requiring as many as eight beacons. A controller provides alarm outputs through standard Form-C dry contact relays. In addition to the controller's standard features, the line provides circuit breaker inspection and reset from the face of the panel. The models are load balance upgradable and can be built for outdoor



environments. Features include individual beacon control, and field switchable for incandescent or LED style fixtures. Outdoor models are available, and power boosted, three-phase power, foreign power compatible, dual red/white compatible and load balancing are all optional.

www.xcel.com

DMR Radios and Repeater

Hytera launched a line of Digital Mobile Radio (DMR) products compliant with the DMR standard. The PD782 digital portable radio features a high-definition display, full keypad, and supports both analog and digital modes.



The radio is compliant with Mil-Std-810 C/D/E/F

and IP57 waterproof standards. The MD782 digital mobile radio offers functions such as message, GPS, data transmission and Connection Alert, and a reserved port allows for additional functions. The RD982 digital repeater operates in analog or digital modes and supports 100 percent duty cycle at 50 watts.

www.hytera.com

Software-Controlled Digital Radio

The MDS SD2 from **GE Digital Energy** is a

software-controlled digital radio that provides long distance communications over licensed radio bands and allows users to



deploy IP/Ethernet and serial communications using the 200 MHz band. The

system is ideal for data acquisition and supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) applications and supports flexible, reliable, secure and efficient data transmission. The radio operates in channel sizes of 5, 6.25, 12.5, 25 and 50 kilohertz. Multiple applications can operate on a single network simultaneously, including remote device configuration and data polling.

www.gedigitalenergy.com

Mobiles and NEXEDGE Repeaters

Kenwood Communications introduced TK-7302/8302 VHF/UHF mobiles that feature 16 channels, a two-digit LED display and refinements in the chassis design. The

mobiles offer a variety of signaling protocols, built-in programmable voice inversion scrambler, multiple scan functions, built-in voice announce, wideband coverage and full compliance with Mil-Std-810 and IP54.

Kenwood also introduced two NEXEDGE digital repeaters, the VHF NXR-710 (25/50 watts) and UHF NXR-810 (25/40 watts). Designed for small- to medium-sized systems, the repeaters operate



multimode in digital NXDN 6.25 kilohertz or

analog 12.5 kilohertz. The repeaters are suited for applications requiring local-area coverage and migration to digital.

www.kenwoodusa.com

TETRA Terminal

Motorola announced that its MTP850Ex portable TETRA terminal, part of the company's ATEX TETRA terminal line, achieved IP65 certification for operating in environments containing dust or pressurized water.



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New Products

The terminal, designed to be intuitive and easy to use in hazardous environments, features an integrated GPS receiver and internal man down alert, Motorola executives said. The terminals also offer an emergency button, dust and waterproof connector, and a simplified keyboard with large button surface for easy use with protective gloves.

www.motorola.com/tetra

Dual Head Radio Configuration

Tait Radio Communications released the TM9155 mobile radio from its Project 25 (P25) radio line. The radio is available with a dual head configuration option that enables the operation of two independent, standard control heads attached to a single radio body. The user interface features, such as



display content, internal speaker audio and LEDs, are duplicated on both control heads. The radio

body can be located separately from the radio and only requires the installation of the standard graphical head at the user location.

Tait also introduced the TP9100 vehicle charger for portables that was designed for fixed installation in vehicles to provide reliable and fast charging to either battery alone or battery with the radio. The charger is compatible with Li-ion or NiMH batteries and features a single action to latch and release the radio from charger.

www.taitworld.com

Digital Console System

The DCS-5020 digital console system from Zetron now offers support for Motorola's MTM800 enhanced TETRA radio, in addition to already supporting Sepura SRM3500; EADS/Nokia TMR880/880i TETRA radios; and high frequency (HF),



UHF, conventional, tone remote control and 5/6 Tone Selcal radio protocols. Zetron's

TETRA PEI Intelligent Radio Interface Module (iRIM) provides the connection between the console system and the TETRA radios it supports. The interface is wireless, which makes it possible to deploy TETRA and analog radio and telephony systems in mobile control rooms.

www.zetron.com

Repeaters

Axell Wireless developed a digital multi-band repeater (D-MBR) that provides coverage for 900 MHz, 1.8 GHz, 2.1 GHz and LTE operating at 2.6 GHz. The repeater allows mobile operators to serve subscribers on all major network types and frequencies in the same building without having to deploy a number of devices. The repeater features 240 megahertz bandwidth capacity and multiple sub-band filtering.

Following the European Union's decision to standardize cross-border communications through the pan-European connection of GSM-R networks, Axell developed a digital



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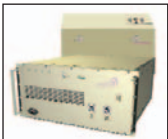
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onboard repeater, D-OBR, for in-train cellular and GSM-R coverage. The repeater allows the train operator's system to automatically retune services at border crossings to support local network operators. The system also enables the operator to turn off the service when entering a territory where it has no agreement in place.



www.axellwireless.com

Repeater Interoperability Controller

Midian Electronic's RIC-2 is a tone remote adapter that allows repeaters connected by phone line or microwave to key one another. When Repeater A receives a signal from a field radio, it will give a carrier-operated relay (COR) signal to the



adapter. The adapter generates 2.175 megahertz high-level guard tone, function

tone and low-level guard tone to key Repeater B and re-transmit the audio coming from Repeater A.

www.midians.com

Base Station and Dispatcher System

Xfin Base and Dispatcher, an analog IP base station and dispatch system from Team Simoco, combines the benefits of analog radio with the operational advantages of an IP network, company officials said. The product's VoIP capability means



radio traffic can be integrated onto IP networks using IP connectivity

options. The software-based PC product allows multiple base stations to be managed from one or more dispatch consoles connected at any location on the IP network.

www.teamsimoco.com

Satellite Data Transceiver

Iridium Communications unveiled its next-generation Iridium 9602 satellite data transceiver. The full-duplex short-burst data (SBD) transceiver was designed for embedded applications for remote asset



tracking and monitoring. The modem is smaller, lighter and less expensive than the company's first-generation SBD modem, Iridium executives said. Built-in GPS input/output ports allow users to interface with an external GPS receiver using a single dual-mode

L-band antenna. The duplex data links permit two-way communications to and from remote devices, allowing users to reprogram the unit, adjust reporting intervals and send on-demand queries.

www.iridium.com

Data Transceiver

Circuit Design released data transceiver

Remote Adjustable Tilt now available for Tetra/Tetrapol



Kathrein offers a wide range of Tetra and Tetrapol products, including a comprehensive portfolio of base station antennas, indoor components and diverse antenna line products e.g. filters, duplexers and combiner solutions.

KATHREIN has launched the worlds first TETRA/TETRAPOL antenna with adjustable electrical downtilt.

Network planning is becoming more and more complicated not only for GSM and UMTS, but also for TETRA/TETRAPOL networks.

The challenge for wireless network operators is to reach the maximum capacity and performance of their operating system.

One of the possibilities to achieve this aim, is to integrate a remote controlled electrical adjustable downtilt (RET) system.

Further advantages of using Kathrein's Remote Electrical Tilt (RET) system:

- No need for specialized teams trained in altitude work or with special safety skills
- Limited site access and/or time restrictions are not so important
- No special platforms or other means of access to the antenna are required
- Adjustments can be made and the relevant measurements performed speedily
- Network alterations can be carried out irrespective of weather conditions
- No reduction in coverage - cells remain fully operational whilst changes are being made

Internet: <http://www.kathrein.de>

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New Products

LMD-400-R, designed for use under the European Land Mobile Service specification EN 300-113. The synthesized trans-



ceiver features 10 megawatts RF power, 4.8 Megabits per second (Mbps) data rate and GFSK modulation. The

compact, low-power transceiver fulfills requirements for frequency stability in a 12.5-kilohertz channel spacing system. Three frequency versions, 438 – 442, 458 – 462 and 458 – 462.5 MHz, are available. Typical applications include industrial radio remote control and industrial telemetry.

www.circuitdesign.jp

Scanning Receiver

The CatchAll receiver from **Multiple Access Communications (MAC)** is a measurement tool for the verification and optimization of wireless networks such as TETRA, Tetrapol, GSM and UMTS. The receiver uses a wideband receiver and ana-



log-to-digital converter (ADC) to capture an instantaneous bandwidth of up to 20 megahertz. Depending on the mode

of operation, the band can be scanned up to 200 times per second, and the scanning rate can accommodate an effective scan list size of 200 TETRA or 400 Tetrapol carriers. The receiver also includes positioning information from the integrated GPS receiver and wheel-pulse inputs.

www.mactld.com

Portable Logging and Surveillance System

The **WINRADIO** PFSL-G3 portable field strength logging and surveillance system is a portable, fully integrated system designed for mobile signal coverage mea-



surements. The system is ideal for field strength mapping and mobile surveillance. The system offers an optional TETRA control protocol

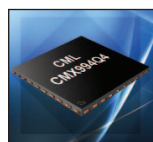
decoder and includes a wideband HF/VHF/UHF calibrated measuring receiver to measure and log signal strength. The system features an integrated GPS, and

includes the control computer, receiver, rechargeable batteries and associated subsystems. Signal levels and field strength can be measured and displayed in a variety of formats along with user-definable intervals.

www.winradio.com

RF Integrated Circuits

The CMX994 from **CML Microcircuits** is a direct conversion receiver IC (DCRx) that targets the next-generation of multimode software-defined radios (SDR) for wireless and two-way radio applications. The DCRx mixes the wanted RF signal down to 0 hertz in a single quadrature mixing process



using a local oscillator tuned to the wanted RF channel frequency. Selectivity filtering and gain can now take place

at baseband with practical, low power, analog and digital circuits, company officials said. Features include on-chip voltage-controlled oscillator (VCO) for VHF applications, an operating range of 100 MHz to 1 GHz and precision baseband filtering with selectable bandwidths. The receiver operates at 3 – 3.6 volts and comes in a Q4 40 very thin quad flat non-leaded (VQFN) package.

www.cmlmicro.com

Rechargeable Battery

Codan released its 17-ampere hour (Ah) Lithium Iron Phosphate (LiFePO4)



rechargeable battery that provides 65 hours of operation from a single charge for the company's 25-watt high frequency (HF) 2110M man-pack transceiver. The battery weighs 2.9 kilograms. With the transceiver's smart battery interface, users can view critical data including battery life expectancy based on the normal field operational scenario of 1:9 transmission:receive (TX:RX).

www.codan.com.au

Microphones

Astra Radio Communications (ARC) introduced several microphones. The B45 is an anti-noise earbone microphone that transmits voice and audio by integrating

voice pick up and voice transmission. The two-wire microphone is ideal for hands-free



operation in loud environments. The S14 waterproof speaker microphone is medium duty and can with-

stand wet environments. The light duty S10NC and two-wire T23NC noise canceling microphones block surrounding noise. All microphones are made with polycarbonate plastic, Kevlar reinforced cabling and can be used with most two-way radio brands, ARC executives said.

www.arcemics.com

In-Ear Radio Headset

Phonak Communications launched primero DPC, an in-ear radio headset with built-in intelligent hearing protection for communications in loud environments. The



boomless radio headset enables conversations in noise of up to 115 dB, while providing hearing protection should louder impulse noises such as shots and crashes occur. The headset uses a

tiny microphone situated within the ear Jack and a signal-processing algorithm to pick up the user's voice from inside the ear canal.

The headset is compatible with all helmets and masks and connects to all professional portable radios. The headset is available in wired and wireless push-to-talk (PTT) units.

www.phonak-communications.com

Half Loop Antenna

The Micom NVIS Half Loop Antenna System from **Royal Communications Interna-**



tional provides rapid automatic voice and data high frequency (HF) radio communications suitable for

mobile land and marine applications in short, medium and long range. Complying with military standards, the system can withstand severe shock and vibration and was designed to operate with all Micom HF-SSB radios. The system provides advanced tuning options to replace existing large vertical and bent whip antennas.

www.royal-communications.com

TETRA 2 Enhancement

Rohde & Schwarz Professional Mobile

Radios upgraded its portfolio of test and measurement equipment to provide test capabilities for the data service enhancements included in TETRA Release 2.

Receivers in TETRA base stations and handsets can be comprehensively tested



using the SMU200A, SMJ100A and SMATE200A vector signal generators.

The new option (-K68) runs directly on the generator. And when equipped with the FS-K110 option for TETRA Release 2, the analyzers measure parameters required for development and production applications.

www.rohde-schwarz.com

RF Shield

Willtek Communications introduced the 4933 RF Shield that supports radiation and quality measurements at large radio transceivers. The shield combines a high shield-

ing factor with easy access to the unit under test. The shield attenuates signals from outside or inside, in conjunction with the RF



connector, which enables radio frequency and quality engineers to measure the radiation of the

device under test in an electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) prequalification test. Other applications include transceiver tests in a controlled environment.

www.willtek.com

Network Security

EADS Defence & Security (DS) launched the Security Cockpit for the supervision of information system security. The system was designed for implementing network security responses in complex environments, which depend on multiple data sources and human input. The system relies partly on the Erudine Behavior Engine's (EBE) proprietary behavior cap-

ture and evolution technology. The technology centralizes information, alerting people involved and allowing them to react to complex attacks through a central console, company officials said. The system can constantly evolve as required by the user.

www.eads.com

Remote Site Link

The **MiMoMax Wireless Power OnDemand Link (M-PoD)** for supporting remote sites was designed for the low latency and spectrally efficient Network Digital Link (NDL). The link reduces power consump-



tion by automatically and rapidly turning the remote end of a link's transmitter on and off,

depending on the demand for over-the-air traffic. Both IP and NIM data at either end will prompt the link to activate, and when the link isn't in use, the link power consumption is reduced to less than 10 watts.

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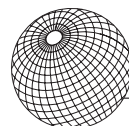
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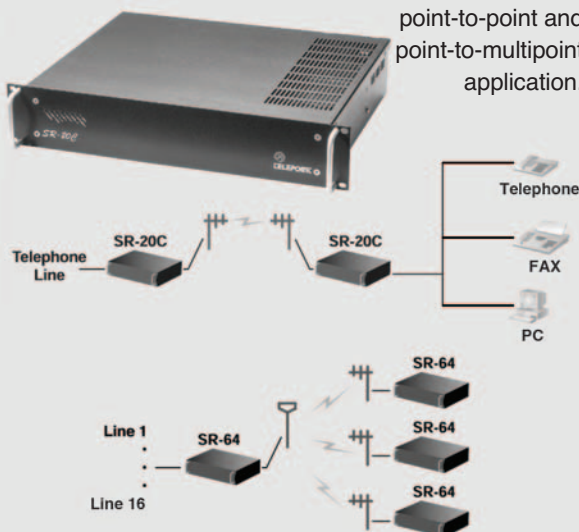
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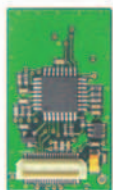


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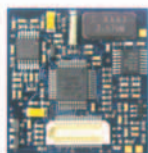
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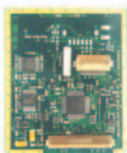
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8 – 9 April: Asia Pacific Radio Spectrum Conference (APRSC), Hong Kong. Institution of Engineering and Technology: +852-2734-3317, aprs2010@theiet.org.hk, www.theiet.org.hk/APRSC2010

13 – 15 April: ENTELEC, Houston. ENTELEC: 888-503-8700, www.entelec.org/conference-and-expo

18 – 21 April: IEEE Wireless Communications & Networking Conference (WCNC), Sydney. IEEE Communications Society: h.sweeney@comsoc.org, www.ieee-wcnc.org/2010

20 – 22 April: BAPCO, London. Brintex Events and BAPCO Organization: admin.enquiries@bapco.org.uk, www.bapco.co.uk

2 – 4 May: International Conference for Police and Law Enforcement Executives, Richmond Hill, Ontario. Canadian Professional Management Services: www.internationalpoliceconference.com

3 – 4 May: Transportation Security Forum, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. Wise Media: +39 02 8903 412, info@transportation-security-forum.com,

www.transportation-security-forum.com

4 May: Public Safety 411, Burlington, Ontario, Canada. Public Safety 411: admin@publicsafety411.ca, www.publicsafety411.ca

5 – 6 May: RadComms2010, Melbourne, Australia. Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA): Donald Robertson, +02 9334 7980, www.acma.gov.au/

16 – 19 May: VTC Spring, Taipei, Taiwan. IEEE Vehicular Technology Conference (VTC): vtc@ictsgroup.com, www.ieeevtc.org/vtc2010spring/index.php

23 – 27 May: IEEE International Conference on Communications (ICC), Cape Town, South Africa. IEEE Communications Society: h.sweeney@comsoc.org, www.ieee-icc.org/2010

25 – 27 May: TETRA World Congress 2010, Singapore. TETRA World Congress: +44 20 7017 7878, enquiries@tetraworldcongress.com, www.tetraworldcongress.com

2 – 3 June: Train Conference Systems 2010, London. BWCS: www.traincomms2010.com

7 – 8 June: International Software Radio, London. SMi Group: Teri Arri, +44 20 7827 6162, tarri@smi-online.co.uk, www.smi-online.co.uk/

www.smi-online.co.uk/ 2010softwareradio20.asp

15 – 18 June: CommunicAsia 2010, Singapore. Singapore Exhibition Services: +65 6233 6638, www.communicasia.com

23 – 25 June: European Reconfigurable Radio Technologies Workshop and Expo, Mainz, Germany. SDR Forum: sdrforum.org/2010EuropeWorkshop

1 – 4 August: APCO 76th Annual Conference and Trade Show, Houston. Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) International: 888-272-6911, www.apco2010.org

4 – 7 October: Wireless Infrastructure Show, Hollywood, Florida, USA. PCIA: 703-535-7411, events@pcia.com, www.wirelessinfrastructureshow.com

23 – 27 October: IACP Annual Conference, Orlando, Florida, USA. International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP): 703-836-6767, www.theiacp.org/Conferences/tabid/69/Default.aspx

15 – 18 November: APCO Canada, Vancouver. APCO Canada: Niesa Silzer, 403-277-7377, nsilzer@detailsinc.ca, www.apcocanadainc.ca

23 – 25 November: PMRExpo, Cologne, Germany. +49 34 743/62 092, www.pmrexpo.com

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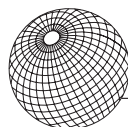
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2. Which of the following best describes your organization?

- ☐ A Mobile Communications Dealer/Reseller
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☐ C Commercial Trunked Radio and Other Wireless Service Providers
☐ D Government/Public Safety/Military
☐ E Business/Industrial/Transportation User
☐ F Communications Manufacturer/OEM/Software Developer
☐ G Engineering and Consulting Firm
☐ Z Other—please specify _____

3. What is your function?

- ☐ A Corporate Management
☐ B Operations/Administration Management
☐ C Technical/Engineering Management
☐ D Sales/Marketing
☐ Z Others Allied to the Field—please specify _____

4. Do you recommend, specify or purchase radio communications equipment or services?

- ☐ A Yes ☐ B No

5. Is there any servicing of radio equipment at your location?

- ☐ A Yes ☐ B No

6. In what area of the world do you do most of your business? (mark only one)

- ☐ A Western Europe ☐ F Africa
☐ B Eastern Europe ☐ G Mexico/Central and South America
☐ C Middle East ☐ H United States/Canada
☐ D Asia ☐ Z Other _____
☐ E Australia/New Zealand

7. What wireless technologies does your organization plan to use/buy over the next 2 years? (check all that apply)

- ☐ A Conventional Two-Way ☐ H Location Technologies
☐ B Cellular/Personal Communications ☐ I Tone Signaling (ANI, Encryption, etc.)
☐ C Paging/Messaging ☐ J Interconnect
☐ D Mobile Data ☐ K Satellite
☐ E SCADA/Telemetry ☐ L CAD
☐ F Microwave radio ☐ M Wireless Broadband
☐ G Trunking ☐ Z Other _____

Philippines Gains Updated Typhoon Communications System

By Matt Heggli

Depending where you live in the world, tropical cyclones are known as typhoons or hurricanes. On average the Philippines experiences more than 20 typhoons a year. That compares with the United States, which experiences about two hurricanes a year, and on occasion, exceptionally dangerous hurricanes with great loss of life and property, such as Hurricane Katrina in 2005. The land-mass of the Philippines makes this



comparison all the more exceptional.

Annually, these weather-related devastations can cost a country such as the Philippines millions of dollars and result in hundreds of lost lives. The Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical, and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) is at the forefront of the disaster mitigation activities as the government-mandated agency responsible for warning the public of typhoons, floods and other weather-related hazards in the Philippines. PAGASA's legacy telecommunications employed the 800 MHz frequency range. Once mobile phones became popular, the legacy telecommunications system crumbled from increasing interference from the country's mobile-phone networks.

PAGASA then experimented with a migration to GSM/GPRS technology, but this largely failed because the commercial communications networks did not meet the standards required for the devastation brought by typhoons and for operation during emergencies. The public and others use commercial networks, and they can get bogged down or crash when there is high volume of use, such as during an emer-

gency. When the network is heavily used, data transmissions are not received by end users, in this case, the government responsible for alerting the public. Not receiving transmissions was a recurring issue in the Philippines. During most days, the transmissions were received 100 percent of the time, but during times of severe weather, the GSM/GPRS communications would drop out or be unavailable for long periods of time. The absence of reliability results in inadequate emergency response.

PAGASA has most recently sought assistance from the United States in developing a frequency migration plan, adding coverage throughout the 7,000 islands that make up the Philippines, and developing a backup telecommunications concept. Innovative Hydrology was assigned to manage the project, which includes the evaluation of the country's entire meteorological network and building a design for a highly sustainable

experienced on previous projects.

Innovative Hydrology assessed the system, which led to a recommendation that a microwave backbone system be used with backup over satellite. The civil works will include the rehabilitation of 25 existing mountaintop stations with the addition of new mountaintop stations that will easily double the total number of nodes. The design includes a rather simple ring topology to improve reliability and will use TCP/IP protocol. Communications reliability will be fortified with satellite data relay through MTSAT, which is a meteorological satellite equipped with a data relay transponder.

The implementation, which will eventually be contracted, will be budgeted at about US\$40 million. The United States Trade and Development Agency granted financing for this study to improve the living conditions in the Philippines and promote trade from suppliers in the United States. It is expected that through the use of

The civil works will include the rehabilitation of 25 existing mountaintop stations with the addition of new mountaintop stations that will easily double the total number of nodes.

telecommunications network to serve the needs of the Philippines in preventing loss of life and property.

Innovative Hydrology has worked on a global scale with consulting expertise in meteorological and hydrological applications, weaving in the use of state-of-the-art telecommunications. With this particular project, Innovative Hydrology faced some new challenges such as the complex geography of the Philippines. The terrain and land area — a nation that is covered in tropical rolling hills, spanning more than 7,000 islands — is unlike anything the company's staff had

reliable and sustainable telecommunications, the people of the Philippines will have vastly improved infrastructure that will lead to the protection of life and property, and much improved quality of life. ■

Matt Heggli is an analyst for Innovative Hydrology. He focuses on the meteorology and hydrology aspects of telecommunications projects for Innovative Hydrology. He has also worked on projects in India. Visit the company Web site at www.innovativehydrology.com or e-mail comments to matt.heggli@innovativehydrology.com.



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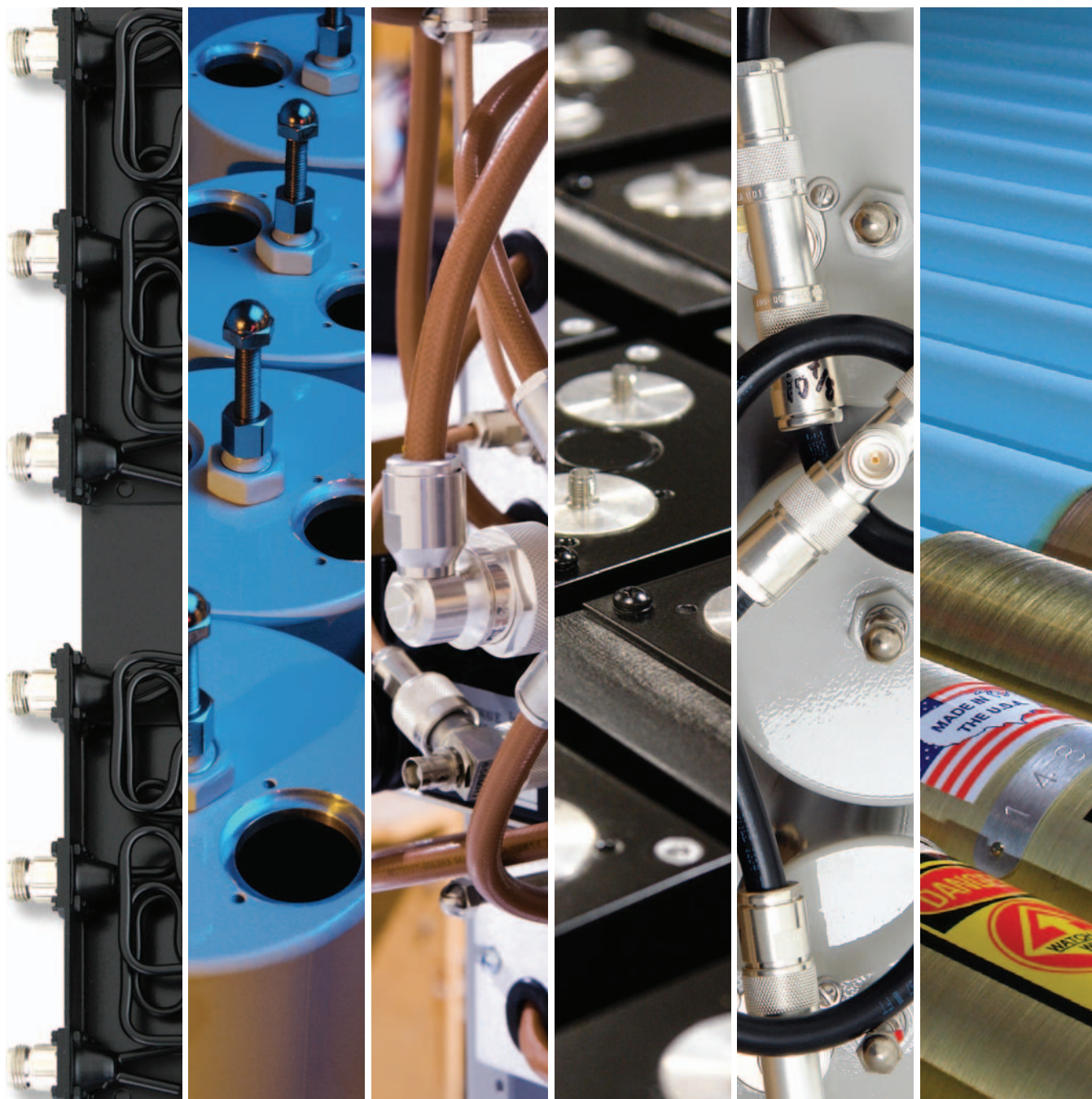
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