



National Guard Case Study

iDirect and SkyPort International equip the National Guard with a satellite based emergency response communications system

The Customer Challenge:

The National Guard needed an emergency communications system to support special teams designed to assist civilian agencies during crisis management events and terrorist threats. These teams, known as CERFP (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear or High Yield Explosive Enhanced Response Force Package), will support civilian first-responder teams around the country in the event of an emergency.

Traditional terrestrial back up systems are often susceptible to the same events that could affect primary lines. The National Guard's mission critical systems needed an alternative that could:

- Handle typical landline traffic volumes in the case of an emergency
- Be available anywhere and be cost competitive to alternatives
- Work seamlessly with the GuardNet Terrestrial network
- Handle Real Time Traffic Management (RTTM) applications like VoIP, video as well as high speed data
- Provide secure link encryption and VLANs

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The iDirect Solution:

The National Guard selected a solution combining SkyPort's satellite network, and iDirect VSAT (Very Small Aperture Terminal) technology combined with the AVL TracStar auto acquisition antenna. This solution was chosen based on it's ease of deployment and management, QoS support of applications such as VoIP and VTC, the ability to support multiple Virtual LANs (VLANs) on a single link, transmission speed (up to 6.5 MBPS), and cost effective bandwidth delivery.

The solution included fixed, auto acquisition deployable, and fly-a-way systems. The iDirect remote router also offered the benefit of being the only FIPS 140-2 certified satellite link with AES encryption available today.

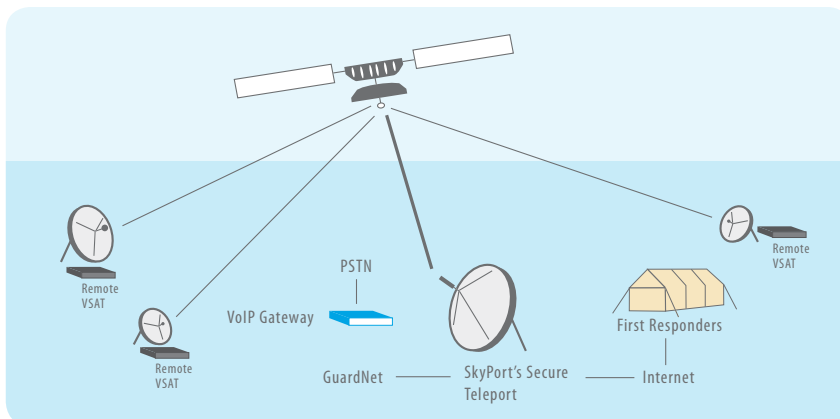
The iDirect solution not only provides a reliable, easy to deploy solution in the case of catastrophic loss of traditional networks, it provides a seamless replacement capable of supporting all network functionality across multiple state, local or federal organizations.



Solution overview

SkyPort's network provides coverage that meets all National Guard requirements in 54 states and territories. Combined with the iDirect VSAT solution and the AVL TracStar auto acquisition antenna, these units will have quick broadband IP network capability, including any voice, video or data application necessary to respond to emergency situations.

The ability to support this functionality over multiple VLAN networks, with wifi access allows first responders to utilize their communications capability any way they need. And, with FIPS 140-2 certified link encryption, and NIPRNET connectivity from SkyPort, the iDirect solution provides cost effective bandwidth to support all secure and non secure communications.



iDirect, Inc.

13865 Sunrise Valley Drive
Herndon, VA 20171
+1 703.648.8000
+1 866.345.0983
www.idirect.net

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