



Application Scenario

Passengers Stranded 10 Hours after Bus Breakdown (Emergency Communications & Telematics)

The Situation

A Grey Goose bus carrying 13 passengers between Leaf Rapids and Lynn Lake in Manitoba, Canada, broke down late one evening around 11 p.m. To make matters worse, the bus was stuck in a remote area with no wireless coverage, rendering the driver's wireless radio useless, and leaving the driver unable to make contact with the authorities. In addition, the depot in Lynn Lake closed before the bus was scheduled to arrive, so no one noticed the bus was missing until the next morning. In fact, it wasn't until 8 a.m. the following morning that the first vehicle passed by the stranded bus and was able to help the group. Fortunately, it had been a mild night and there were no serious injuries. However, if it had been colder, it is likely that the passengers would have suffered from frost bite or hypothermia. A SkyTerra MSAT-G2 satellite phone installed in the bus would have allowed the driver to immediately call for help and ensure the safety of the passengers.



SkyTerra has communications solutions for a breakdown in the middle of nowhere

The Solution

Satellite service is the perfect communications solution for remote locations lacking terrestrial coverage. Today, SkyTerra supports continent-wide Push-to-Talk (PTT) Dispatch Radio and Circuit Switched Voice communications via its MSAT Network. Also, tracking applications enable fleet managers to pinpoint and monitor the location of their vehicles with MSAT-G2 equipment on board, making it an invaluable tool.

SkyTerra is also developing an integrated satellite-terrestrial communications network that will provide ubiquitous wireless broadband services, including telematics, remote monitoring, and distress signal communications, throughout North America. By embedding SkyTerra chipsets into vehicles' onboard communications system, drivers will be able to be in communication anywhere, anytime. Such potential advantages include vastly expanded and improved communications coverage, mapping capability, distress signaling, engine diagnostics, and low-cost chipset availability. With SkyTerra's next generation services, the bus and its passengers would not have been out of touch.

SkyTerra Overview

SkyTerra offers a range of mobile satellite services (MSS) using two geostationary satellites that support the delivery of two-way radio (PTT), mobile data, and voice services that serve a broad spectrum of industries including public safety, security, broadcasting, natural resources, fleet management and asset tracking. SkyTerra is developing its hybrid satellite-terrestrial communications network, based on SkyTerra's patented ancillary terrestrial component (ATC) technology. The next-generation network is designed to provide seamless, transparent and ubiquitous wireless coverage of the United States and Canada to conventional handsets. SkyTerra plans to launch two of the most powerful commercial satellites ever built. These satellites will provide a platform for interoperable, user-friendly & feature-rich voice and high-speed data services.

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