

NATIONAL GUARD

The 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 backup 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

The Solution

ST Engineering iDirect and SkyPort International equipped the National Guard with a solution combining SkyPort's satellite network, and our VSAT (Very Small Aperture Terminal) technology combined with the AVL TracStar auto acquisition antenna. This solution was chosen based on its

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. Our remote router also offered the benefit of a FIPS 140-2 certified satellite link with AES encryption.

The 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.

The Result

SkyPort's network provides coverage that meets all National Guard requirements in 54 states and territories. Combined with the ST Engineering 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, our solution provides cost effective bandwidth to support all secure and non-secure communications.

