TRACKS - Transportable Station for Communication Network Extension by Satellite

Applications: Disaster Relief/Emergency Management

"Temporary land mobile network cell extension by Satellite in case of nonexistent or damaged terrestrial infrastructures."
Hilarion Raobadia, Project Manager, EADS Astrium

PRIME CONTRACTOR:

EADS Astrium
31, rue des Cosmonautes
Z.I. du Palays
31402 Toulouse Cedex 4
France
http://www.astrium.eads.net

CONTACT EADS Astrium:

Hilarion Raobadia
Project Manager
E-mail: hilarion.raobadia@astrium.eads.net
Phone: +33 (0) 5 62 19 67 31
Fax: +33 (0) 5 62 19 79 99

PROFILE:

TRACKS is a transportable station dedicated to meeting the communications needs in both of the following areas:

- Rural areas in developing countries for telephony and Internet access.
- Areas subject to natural risks, industrial risks and specific events where terrestrial infrastructures are either nonexistent or temporarily damaged.

To comply with the above needs, TRACKS ensures the extension of current the GSM network via satellite and provides mobile GSM services as well as rural fixed ones.

Its design and development benefit from a working synergy between the needs of developing countries and those of crisis management in order to provide satellite solutions to areas where terrestrial infrastructure is lacking.

TRACKS takes into account such operational constraints as:

- strong resistance to climatic environment so as to ensure reliable and efficient operations in crisis areas as well as in rural areas of developing countries
- ease of operation and deployment with a high level of autonomy
- cost affordability for developing countries, both in terms of acquisition and operations.

The TRACKS project is expected to result in the development of a transportable station with following beneficial characteristics:

- optimum overall use of bandwidth on the satellite network as well as on the terminals for mobile and fixed services;
- cost affordable both in terms of acquisition and operations, facilitating and contributing to the development of telephony and Internet access via satellite in rural areas of developing countries;
- providing efficient communications, while still being flexible and easy to put into service in crisis situations.