

Down To Business:

PARTNERS AND PRODUCTS UPDATES

Partners Introduce New Docking Stations for Iridium 9555 Satellite Phones

Applied Satellite Engineering (ASE) and Beam Communications Pty Ltd have recently introduced certified Iridium 9555 docking stations.

A docking station permits an Iridium satellite phone to be used indoors with an external antenna, such as on a boat or yacht, or in a vehicle, mobile communication center or an office building. In addition to the convenience of indoor calling, a docking station can provide substantial cost savings in terms of calling charges. Many organizations who rely on Iridium satellite phone docking stations for critical communications for field employees find calls cost up to 90 percent less than landline-originated calls – a savings that covers the investment of purchasing a docking station in less than 11 months.



ASE's two newest docking stations for the Iridium 9555 – the DK075 and DK050 – allow for use of the Iridium 9555 anywhere. ASE docking stations also provide indoor usage or a resilient communications tool in case of an emergency. ASE customers include maritime, resilience centers, national security, NGO and emergency first responders who require

robust applications and the reach and reliability of satellite phones.

The ASE docking stations enhance and protect the Iridium 9555 handset through intelligent software and hardware management. The DK050 provides local usage using a corded intelligent handset. The DK075 extends the reach by integrating the POTS (Plain Old Telephone Service) trunk for connection to a private branch exchange (PBX) or standard analogue phone.

Other features include the advanced tone management for providing the operator with system status and “smart dialing,” which eliminates confusion when country code variations are involved. Intelligent hardware and software features include power-on and power-down functions and USB connection for data transfers.

The ASE docking stations also feature live docking and undocking with bright illuminated status icons to show calling progress, satellites in view, data transmissions and improper docking. They also provide a secure locking mechanism and protect the Iridium 9555, but the phone can be removed almost instantly for situations that require “grab-and-go” scenarios.



Additionally, Beam Communications has certified three of its specialized docking solutions for the Iridium 9555: the Beam SatDOCK 9555 fully integrated hands-free docking station; the PotsDOCK 9555 – RJ11/POTS terminal with built-in tracking and alert reporting; and the Beam IntelliDOCK 9555 docking station with Bluetooth.

The Beam SatDOCK provides a high-quality, semi-permanent installation, using echo-cancelling and full duplex technologies for hands-free voice communications in a wide range of applications. SatDOCK supports features suitable to integrated applications including a fully featured privacy handset, horn alert, radio mute and line-level connectivity if required.



Beam has also integrated the latest SatDOCK 9555 into a completely transportable product called RapidSAT, a deployable bag phone ideal for use in an emergency or for temporary applications. Beam PotsDOCK 9555 enables in-building access to satellite communications using the Iridium 9555 handset and the intelligent RJ11/POTS connectivity of the PotsDOCK. PotsDOCK has the added features of built-in GPS for tracking and alert functionality as well as Bluetooth for hands-free applications. Beam IntelliDOCK 9555 is a low-cost docking solution which provides integrated antenna connectivity, phone charging, USB data, as well as a Bluetooth interface for voice communications and the option of a compact privacy handset, making it an ideal solution for any application.

Iridium satellite phones coupled, with Beam docking stations, provide instant non-terrestrial communication not only for day-to-day access in remote places, but also for disaster and emergency communications when normal infrastructure has failed or is overloaded. The range of

Beam docking stations for the Iridium 9555 enhances the overall performance of the handsets and its applications.

"The Iridium 9555 satellite phone is truly a critical, reliable global lifeline for customers," said Greg Ewert, executive vice president, global distribution channels, Iridium. "It is used where no other viable form of communications is available. With feature-enhancing tools provided by Iridium partners like the ASE and Beam docking stations, customers have the global access they've grown accustomed to with Iridium but with powerful new enabling features like smart dialing and advanced tone management, which truly enhances the user experience."

To learn more about ASE and Beam docking stations, please visit www.ase-corp.com or www.beamcommunications.com.



RT Logic to Develop New Software-Defined Modem for Feeder Link Terminals

Iridium has awarded a contract to Integral Systems, Inc.'s subsidiary, RT Logic (www.rtlogic.com), to supply two Telemetrix® 400XR Modulator/Receiver (T400XR) modems. The T400XRs will serve as Iridium's next-generation satellite communication modems, handling all Iridium user voice and data between satellite phones and the terrestrial network for their Feeder Link Terminal (FLT) Modem upgrade.

"The new modem will be a critical component in our ground network modernization program, which will be based on a state-of-the-art teleport network architecture," said John Roddy, executive vice president of ground operations and product development, Iridium. "We selected RT Logic to supply this critical component because of its extensive technical expertise as a supplier of commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) SDMs for low-earth orbiting satellite (LEO) applications."



"The new teleport network architecture with FLTs at multiple locations will strengthen Iridium's network reliability even further beyond today's high levels, provide new layers of built-in redundancy for our existing satellite constellation, and be an integral part of the teleport network architecture that will be the backbone of Iridium NEXT, our next-generation satellite network," Roddy added.

The T400XR is a modular, firmware-defined modulator, demodulator, tracking receiver and digital processing unit that replaces the functions previously provided by four unique chassis within Iridium's FLT. The T400XR is configured with an L-Band interface for RF signal processing and has a network interface for input and output of user message data. Besides demodulation and modulation of user message data, the T400XR will also provide frame processing and packet routing according to Iridium's unique requirements.

"We are excited to work with the world's leading provider of satellite phone and data service," said Matt Langenbahn, RT Logic's Iridium FLT Modem program manager. "Due to its modular and flexible nature, the T400XR is uniquely suited to Iridium's complex set of requirements."