



## DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

Characteristics	Description
1 Field Proven	The system is deployed and is operational in a large number of regions with over 1,000 endpoint communications devices in-service including 3 Tier 1 UASI regions. The system was scrutinized and thoroughly tested by NATO Special Operations Forces and is deployed in Afghanistan with expansion underway. The system was also rigorously tested during a nine day DoD sponsored trial at multiple military bases which involved over 1,500 different tasks that were completed with a 99.7% success rate.
2 Inherent and Diverse Multimedia Capability	The system supports the interconnection of land mobile radio, Nextel, VoIP push-to-talk, wireline, cellular, VoIP and satellite telephone systems, public address, and intercom systems for unequalled voice collaboration. Additionally, the system supports streaming analog and IP video and allows selective video sharing among all workstations. Finally, all workstations can share files and create and share text messaging for off-the-air, dispatcher interaction.
3 Maintains Sovereign Control of Resources	Each agency/entity can choose to invite other participants and those invitees can choose to participate or not and can terminate their participation at any time. Each agency/entity can also choose to add their communications resources (voice or video) to each session and can withdraw those resources at any time if/when appropriate. With all resources under the total control of the owning party, any number of public agencies and private entities can share the same the system and become involved only when they deem it is appropriate.
4 High Availability	The system incorporates a true peer-to-peer architecture with no central servers or hierarchical structure. The IP backbone is fully redundant and highly resilient to allow continued operations during times of natural disaster or other wide-spread outage conditions.
5 Highly Scalable	The peer-to-peer nature of the system allows any endpoint device to communicate with any other endpoint device with no practical limit in the number of participants in an incident. The system includes auto-discovery mechanisms that make existing endpoint devices aware of any new endpoint added to the network.



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6 Consistent and Compliant with Federal Standards	The system has been architected and implemented to meet the Department of Homeland Security's guidelines as described in the National Response Framework (NRF) and National Emergency Communications Plan (NECP) that define the all hazards, all disciplines requirements. It is also compatible with and builds on the National Incident Management System (NIMS) standard.
7 Remarkably Easy to Learn and Use	Users can be taught to operate the system in approximately twenty minutes or less. The Graphical User Interface is intuitive and is equally effective with professional dispatch personnel as well as others such as security guards or administrators who have other primary responsibilities.
8 Highly Effective for Daily Use	Although designed for multimedia collaboration during incidents, the system has been proven to be applicable for daily, non-emergency use to coordinate operations between locations as well as on-site with personnel that utilize different telecommunications media. Maintenance coordination, resource availability, general announcements, ad-hoc multi-party conferencing, and simple file sharing are a few examples of the daily operations that are supported with the system and are currently used by existing customers.
9 Low Cost	The system has been developed over a six year period to be cost efficient and consists of the selection and implementation of a combination of commercial, off-the-shelf hardware components and custom developed components specifically targeted at multimedia collaboration.
10 Cost Effective Solution	Recognizing the increased value of the wide-spread adoption of a multi-agency/entity collaboration network, the system has been priced to encourage participation with each agency/entity required to purchase only the communications endpoint equipment that it needs at that time. Additional devices and workstations can be implemented as individual modules as system expansion warrants.