

For more information:

Diana Minglis
TC Communications
02 9714 5100
dianam@tc.com.au

TC Communications installs Australia's first Swift Broadband Lite Solution on Victorian Fire Spotting planes

Australia's preferred aero platform - the small to mid size plane - can now access full broadband Inmarsat I4 capabilities.

In the wake of the February 2009 bush-fire catastrophe, the Victorian government has acquired new approaches to firefighting.

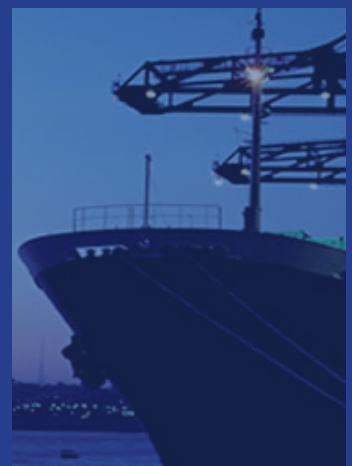
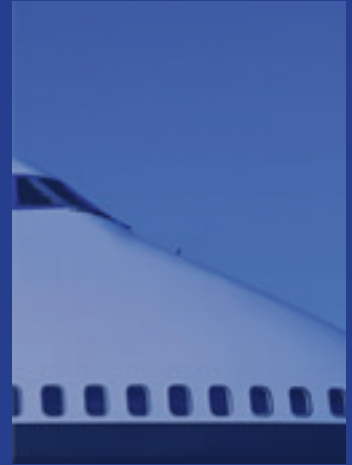
The adoption of this state of the art technology in satellite communications brings Victoria's State Aircraft Unit to a position of technological leadership in the area of firefighting. Fire spotting aircraft managed by the unit are now able to share gathered data in real time (via the Inmarsat I4 satellite network) with any of the 43 incident control centres throughout the state. This solution provides simultaneous voice and data communications directly from the plane as it flies over the fire zone.

TC Communications worked closely with the SUA to develop and deliver a system that allows full broadband functionality to the planes regardless of how remote their location and despite how small the aircraft. Todd McDonell, CEO of TC Communications, says providing satellite communications capabilities to small aircraft will assist Australian authorities to manage the country's unique environmental factors that cause catastrophic natural disasters.

Smaller Planes Can Now Access Big Plane Technology

"We have had great success over the years in installing aircraft communications systems on larger aircraft like those used by the Australian Border Protection Command. However the current advances in technology allow us to take satellite communications to a much broader market and deliver the benefits to the wider community. As an immense land mass with many remote regions, small to mid-size aircraft are the preferred aero platform in Australia and the potential for productivity and economy of this type of aircraft has improved significantly with the ability to install mobile broadband capabilities."

TC Communications is an Inmarsat Gold Partner and recognised Australian aeronautical satcom specialist. With the completion of the second installation of the Thrane&Thrane SwiftBroadband Lite terminals into the SUA's Super King B200 and Cessna 404 Titan planes, the feedback from the client has been all positive.



Wednesday 30th March 2011

TC Communications' CEO, Todd McDonell to speak at Australasia Satellite Forum in Sydney on Wednesday, 30th March

NBN continues to be a hot topic for satellite community forum but what of Mobile Satellite solutions?

The satellite industry continues to debate the pros and cons of NBN Co and the possibility of 'scope creep' into traditional satellite markets. As such, it is anticipated that discussions will become heated at today's forum - hosted by talk Satellite and COMMSDAY at the Four Seasons Hotel in Sydney.

With this in mind, TC Communications continues to strive towards providing innovative and sophisticated value-add solutions to differentiate itself within the niche satellite market in the region.

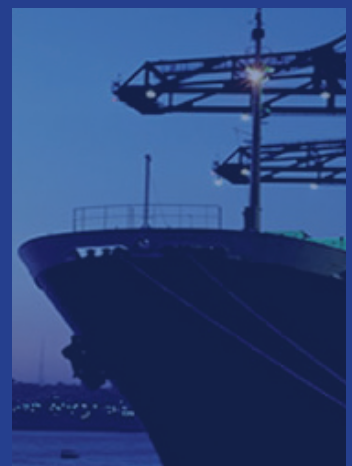
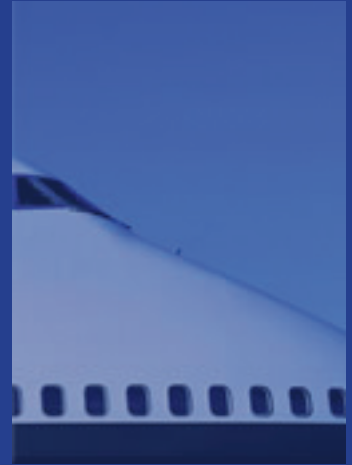
In recognition of TC's leading edge position in the market, Todd McDonell has been invited to sit on the Maritime/Aeronautical/COTM panel at the Australasian Satellite Forum.

Todd is concerned that the NBN debate does not hijack all satellite development conversations in Australia. He explains, "I am keen to discuss the point that NBN is a fixed network and not designed for any mobility applications. Can NBN be an enabler of mobility solutions? More and more people require communications in any location and sometimes at short notice and the NBN design doesn't meet this need.

With the introduction of things like IPv6, ubiquity of connectivity is likely to become the norm as everything gets its own IP address. As a result, the question will always be how to get the network connection to the address. If your address, flies, floats or even moves over ground there are a lot more things to consider than the items currently considered within the NBN."

TC Communications continues to invest in the development of this mobile sector and Todd will be available to discuss this at today's Forum.

PRESS RELEASE



Unit A3 Cameron Centre,
255 Rawson St, Auburn NSW
2144 Australia
Tel + 61 2 97145100
Fax +61 2 9648 0946
Email: sales@tc.com.au
Web: www.tc.com.au