World Congress News

Share in TETRA's continued success

Russian journalists receive an in-depth briefing from John Cox

Yesterday, the TETRA Association held its annual World Congress Press Briefing. The new CEO, John Cox and the Association's Chair, Ray Ginman, gave lively and encouraging 'end-of-year' reports, illustrating the positive performance of both TETRA and the TETRA MoU.

Customer confidence & investment
New contracts are being placed around the world, membership of the Association has passed the 100 mark and, most significantly, the TETRA industry is demonstrating a resilience based on customer and investor confidence. John Cox said, "It is particularly pleasing to see companies which have experienced temporary commercial difficulties emerge or re-emerge with the backing of financial investors who are clearly convinced of the long-term viability of the TETRA market."

With over 180 contracts let with a total value exceeding €3.5bn, the evidence of confidence is there. New national public safety solutions continue to be dominated by TETRA — the most recent being the Adonis project for Austria and TETRA has been described by Norway's Justice Department as the 'technology best suited to the needs of the emergency services'.

Shared communications vital
Ray Ginman, with experience from a long career in the Public Safety services made a strong point, "I fully agree with the recommendations on shared communications that have recently come from a number of review bodies. In my opinion, based on many years of operational work in the London Police and elsewhere in the world, it is vital that the same technology is used by all the teams at a major incident."

Ray went on to explain the benefits of shared communications. Operationally, multi-agency interworking is enhanced and the ability to share information is vastly increased, making everyone better informed and better prepared. Away from the front line, additional benefits include consolidation of resources and value for money investments. Ray continued, "Rivers and germ warfare do not recognise borders. Lots of organisations need to work and communicate together in order to save lives and property. It is under these circumstances that the intrinsic capability of a digital trunked technology such as TETRA comes into its own."

Big and small
Originally seen as the technology solution for regional or national public safety communication solutions, TETRA's ability to support smaller localised systems has been demonstrated in a number of recent contract awards for smaller systems. John Cox said "TETRA is not just for national solutions. There has been a spectacular growth in the success of TETRA for small systems — which are typically sized from 1 to 30 base stations." Ten companies are listed on the MoU's database as infrastructure suppliers offering small systems. These networks, whilst small, do not lose any of TETRA's voice and data capabilities. The number of independent manufacturers offering terminals has also grown, doubling over the past two years.

Apply now for your TETRA solution
News of the first survey of the TETRA Applications market was also announced. The Association's recent survey into this area has produced a list of over 130 applications identified from more than 80 Application Developers. The range of applications is extensive, including Control Room systems, Mobile Data and Mobile Data devices, Telemetry, Mapping, Imaging, Billing, Data Communication, Location Systems and many more.

Another packed day

The Isle of Man may be small in terms of its landmass but it is one of the world's leaders in terms of its vision for employing TETRA's IP capability. Their presentation sets the tone for this morning's plenary that will examine the realities and experiences of IP and Applications for TETRA users. Building on the conference theme, this will generate more first hand feedback to-wards an assessment of 'fulfilment'.

Today's afternoon streams will divide in two. Amongst the topics in the Government, Military & Emergency Services element will be a presentation about Austria's recent decision for TETRA and some insight into an enthusiastic 'multi-user' from the Dutch Fire Service which sees much to be gained from an integrated communications solution. Those in the Transport, Utilities and Operator stream will be able to asses for themselves progress around Europe on a number of shared networks.

Major contract news round-up

Need some Air Miles? Here's a flying trip around yet more of the world of recent contract announcements. Fasten your seat belts...

Bahrain: Nokia will deliver a nationwide TETRA network for Kingdom of Bahrain. The network based on IP technology should be operational at the start of 2003.
Bulgaria: The first TETRA network in Bulgaria will be for the Border Police, to be supplied by Nokia. The IP based network is expected to be operational during spring 2003.

Malaysia: the Malaysian Express Rail Link Project (ERL) is expanding Motorola's US$2 million TETRA contract providing high voice quality across their network
Morocco: A national TETRA licence awarded to Moratel in Morocco will use a Nokia IP network. Delivery is planned by the end of 2002.
Taiwan: TETRA beats GSM-R for Taiwan High Speed Rail. Motorola has won the world's first TETRA contract for the high speed rail industry. They will provide a system for the entire 345km track including tunnels, train stations, depots as well as high-speed trains plying at 350km/h.
Tunisia: Another IP based network contract awarded to Nokia, this time providing a nationwide TETRA network for the L'Office National de Télédiffusion (ONT), Tunis.
United Kingdom: Sepura have received a contract to supply 14,000 of their SRP2000 terminals to a consortium of some of the UK's Police Forces for use on the Airwave public safety network.
Venezuela: 'Fait accompli' — only made public now, following the letting of this contract earlier in 2002, Motorola has successfully deployed their system for the State of Táchira, Venezuela.

And now there's paging for TETRA
Nokia's 'Unit Alert' feature integrates paging to their TETRA terminals. Users can receive a special SDS message activating an alert even when the terminal is set to silent mode.

For more information, you'll find all the companies here in the exhibition area. Make sure you find the time to go and talk to them. The tea, coffee and lunch breaks have been designed to give you the best opportunity possible. Don't miss your chance.

Christmas comes early in Lapland — VIRVE rollout completed

The roll-out of the VIRVE network was completed at the end of October when the final base station was switched on in Finnish Lapland. Esko Rajahalme, VIRVE Project Manager, declared the network roll-out to be complete and said the service is ready for full scale use across the country. He commented, "Now it is time to look to the future for further developments of the service."

Today, VIRVE is in use by 30,000 public safety officers from Fire & Rescue services, Border authorities and many others. The few remaining user organisations not yet enjoying the benefits of VIRVE, including the Finnish Police, will join the service within the next weeks.

Nationwide coverage further enhanced for coastguard use
The VIRVE network comprises of 15 TETRA switches, over 1,200 TETRA base stations and 220 dispatcher workstations, all supplied by Nokia. According to Mr. Rajahalme, Nokia delivered everything on time and cooperation has been very good: "Together, we developed VIRVE to meet the requirements of its demanding user organisations."

A nationwide group call was made to demonstrate the advantages that VIRVE brings to the authorities. The 6 member group call was made from Lapland and included members situated around Finland in Helsinki, Lahti, Vaasa, Jyväskylä, Kuopio. The VIRVE service has also been expanded to cover the coastline of Estonia to support the coastguards of both Finland and Estonia.

Users' experience of the new network has been good. Organisations with previous experience of their own analogue private radio communications networks are satisfied with the quality, security and the ability to share communications when needed, one of the big benefits that digital TETRA brings. Other groups without any previous experience of shared radio communications are quickly learning the benefits. As a further benefit, a complete reorganisation of the Emergency Response Centres in Finland has now been enabled thanks to VIRVE.

NATO in competition with the World Congress?

NATO's Summit is being held this week in Prague and TETRA is right at the heart of it, keeping the visiting delegations in touch. Motorola has been chosen to provide the system for the Summit. Communications will be based on the existing Motorola supplied TETRA network which is owned by the City of Prague. With more than 12,000 individuals attending the Summit, Motorola's system will provide enough capacity to meet the demands of each country's delegation, whilst providing safe and secure transmission ensuring the necessary level of security. Ms. Helena Bambasova, Management Executive Director, Prague NATO Summit Task Force, said: "We need the most reliable form of communication system when hosting such an important event."

Ballot boxes close at 16:05 today — so VOTE!!

Don't forget to cast your votes for the 'Best of TETRA'. Please make sure your ballot paper has been returned by the end of this afternoon's tea break (16:05). Ask at IIR's Conference Reception desk if you cannot find any ballot papers. Remember, you are voting for the four 'Best of' categories: Service, Radio, Product and Application. Your votes will count towards half of the overall ballot. A panel of judges specially convened for the Awards will determine the other half.
Winners will be announced at tonight's Gala Dinner at the Plaza Hotel. Have you got your ticket?

Completing connectivity

NOKIA TMR880

The Nokia TMR880 Mobile Radio complements the Nokia TETRA terminal family in the vehicle environment. It provides direct, cost-effective connectivity to compatible devices such as status panels, external alarms and telemetry applications without needing an external communication box. The Nokia TMR880 Terminal even functions as a direct interface to compatible GPS receivers for convenient locationing.

Add to this the convenience of voice feedback and a highly visible colour display and you're well on the road to complete connectivity.

• Voice feedback
• Colour display
• Direct connectivity without connection box
• Direct interface for compatible GPS receiver
• Advanced Nokia PEI

NOKIA
CONNECTING PEOPLE

www.nokia.com/phones/tmr880

Safer. Smarter. Better.

Integrated Communication Solutions

Motorola's TETRA communication solutions provide the interoperability and encryption capabilities you need to ensure quick information retrieval and fast response under demanding conditions.

With over 70 years of experience serving the mission-critical needs of public safety, transportation, special services, military and governmental organisations worldwide, you can trust Motorola to help you identify and provide the right solutions to meet your needs.

Motorola offers a vast portfolio of technologies and applications to deliver the intelligence you need, where you need it and when you need it most.

Expand your possibilities with rapid, mobile intelligence from Motorola.

For more information, please visit us at the
TETRA World Congress
or at **www.motorola.com/tetra**

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