

Alster News

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Monthly Warning Test - Sept. 14

Each month, the emergency communities of several Pacific Northwest states participate in a test of their warning systems to verify function and application.

Coinciding with the monthly testing in September, NOAA/National Weather Service offices in Oregon and Washington are planning a communications and dissemination test using NOAA Weather Radio.

NOAA will initiate the required monthly test on Wednesday, September 14, 2005 using an RMP Event Code. This will verify the alerting function of NOAA to the emergency agencies in Oregon and Washington.

For more information please contact:
 Oregon Emergency Management - Jay Wilson, 503-378-2911, extension 22237
 Washington Emergency Management - George Crawford, 253-512-7067 or Dave Nelson, 253-512-7075

Other area emergency contacts are:

Alaska Emergency Management - Scott Simmons, 907-428-7016
 National Weather Service - Oregon - Tyree Wilde, 503-326-2340, extension 223
 National Weather Service - Washington - Ted Buehner, 206-526-6095, extension 223



FWS Electronic Siren

Tsunami Warning

Federal Warning Systems provides Indoor and Outdoor warning systems. The indoor systems are designed for hospitals and retirement residences and can be stand alone or work with existing fire alarms.

The outdoor systems can be mechanical (creating siren sounds only), electronic (creating siren sounds, music, chimes and speech broadcasts) or a combination of both.

We are currently working with Alaska, Oregon and Washington ocean communities to design and implement tsunami warning systems. Please call for more information. Ω

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SatStream - Uninterrupted EAS Notification

SatStream is a new factory for Alster that provides EAS Warning using satellites. Their product receives standard US EAS protocol audio and converts it into a low bandwidth data stream. At the receiving end, this stream is interpreted and a fresh local EAS protocol audio stream is generated.

By compressing the voice announcement and digitizing the EAS message, you save bandwidth and then regenerate a dis-

tortion free EAS audio output. Lower bandwidth leads to lower satellite costs. They recommend a time proven "old" technology: SCPC, which means single channel per carrier providing a narrow band solution.

The advantage of SCPC is the absence of any networks, phone lines or other complexity between the uplink and the destination receivers. Only the satellite separates you from the receiver. Ω

Acterna - FTTx, VoIP, Video or DSL, ADSL2+

Acterna announced that it has further enhanced the triple-play capabilities of the HST-3000 by adding several new IP Video test features. Designed to meet test applications required by residential and business service technicians, the HST-3000 provides IP Video and VoIP test functions to support deployments of packet-based voice and video service networks specially targeted at FTTx and video-over-DSL networks.

New features include set-top box emulation for both broadcast video and video-on-demand (VOD), video quality of service (QoS) test functions for frequently experienced "interrupters" such as jitter and packet loss, extended detail for video and bandwidth troubleshooting analysis, and support for ADSL2+ over both ISDN and POTS.

ADSL2+, which will begin wide scale deployment this year, is a new technology and a key enabler for the deployment of new voice, data and video over copper access networks. The ADSL2+ option for the Acterna HST-3000 provides ATU-R emulation supporting ADSL1, ADSL2, and ADSL2+ in one module, supports new modes of operation including Reach Extended mode and All Digital mode, and enhances the full suite of HST data features over this new copper loop technology.

The Acterna HST-3000 is a major component for installation, provisioning and monitoring of triple-play telecommunication networks. Acterna offers the industry's most complete suite of products and services for testing triple-play cable networks. Ω



Handheld HST-3000

Multiplier - New Batteries for Vertex Radios

Multiplier announces two new offerings for Vertex Radios:

VX-130/160/180/210

VX-400/410/420

Now you can buy the highest capacity battery available for these radios - the MFNB-67LI, 1800 mAH Lithium Ion battery. Other batteries available from Multiplier for these radios include the MFNB-57, 1100 mAH Ni-Cad, MFNB-57H 1600 mAH, Ni-MH and MFNB-64 700 mAH

Ni-Cad.

VX-600/900

Multiplier is making two Lithium Ion batteries for the popular VX-600/900 radios. They are the 1800 mAH, MFNB-68LI and the 3000 mAH, MFNB-69LI. These batteries use the highest performing Panasonic or Sanyo Li-Ion cells and an exact fit on the radio.



You can buy these batteries from your local dealer, distributor or directly from Multiplier. Cal me for more information or a demo. Ω

Multiplier's New Lithium Ion batteries are available for Vertex radios

Bird Technologies - Plant Tour

The Alster crew that went to Times in June also spent a day in Cleveland (Solon), Ohio and toured the Bird plant. We were also given training on the new SA-6000 Site Analyzer.

The tour is always interesting because we can see how big the plant is and meet people we've only spoken to on the phone.

Bird manufactures a lot of RF attenuators, loads, wattmeters, antenna sweeping devices and much more.

We enjoyed our visit, meeting those people who help serve you better.

Wattmeters

Did you know that Bird makes 14 different types of wattmeters? They are well know for the "slug" type wattmeter, reading forward and reverse power. They also have a "slugless" version, rack mount version, peak power version, RF tap version, Peak Envelop Power version and several others. See pages 13 - 16 in their catalog. Ω



Bird Wattmeters Waiting For New Home

Relm Wireless - RPV/U and 3000/3600

US Postal Service

We would like to congratulate Relm Wireless for being awarded an exclusive requirements contract for the US Postal Service. The USPS purchased and tested these radios in the Jacksonville, Florida area. The performance and competitive pricing won this bid. You can also use the RPV516A and RPU416A to win bids in your area.

The RPV/U radios are good quality radios, and dealers can make good margins selling them. They have no design issues and have been in the marketplace for almost three years now, having created a good reputation. The same can be said for the

RPV599APLUS and RPU499APLUS.

3000/3600 Update

RP3000A enhancements include MDC 1200 encode is now standard in the radio.

The RP3600 are receiving enhancements including 16-character display, Scan ADD/DELETE (User mode), Change Priority Channel (User Mode), User Selectable Tone Guard, DTMF encode/decode, MDC1200 encode/decode, Talk Around Icon, Vibrate Icon, record carrier drop out time settings.

Finally, Relm will create a Download section in the dealer section of the website under Service, then Relm communications. Please call me for a demo on these radios.Ω



Relm/BK
RP-3600

Vireo By Otto - For Hospitality/Service

The Vireo product by Otto, is a less expensive alternative to forcing hotel-hospitality-service radio customers to use the public safety engineered and designed products from Otto.

These customers need adequate radio communications such as Earbuds, Earbuds with In-Line Microphone, Ear Hanger, Ear Hanger with In-Line Microphone and Ear Hanger with Boom Microphone.

They can also use Speaker-Microphones and Over-The-Head, Lightweight Headsets.

You can be competitive with other manufacturer's and provide your customer products with well known Otto Communications Quality.

In addition to communication attachments to radios, Vireo also provides radio carrying cases. These are available in Cordura Nylon or traditional leather with swivel belt loop.

Please call me if you want a sample product. All we need is the radio make and type of Vireo you would like a demonstration. Ω



*Speaker-mics,
headsets and ear
pieces for the
hospitality and
service radio
customer*

Times Cable Installation Videos

Web sites are great things. If you have time, you can learn just about anything.

At our Times training in June, we spent an hour or so putting on different types of connectors on different type cables. It was a learning experience for a sales guy to actually have to put on a connector and someone else try to pull it off. (I passed.)

Training Videos

Times Microwave has created training videos of connector installation and make

this available on their web site. All you need to do is go to:

<http://www.timesmicrowave.com/connectors/videos.shtml>

You will find several downloadable videos that provide training on installation techniques. Or you can have some fun by asking me to install a connector and you can try to pull it off. Ω



LMR-200 2 Piece N

Kim Torp-Pedersen - Western Washington

Kim has been associated with Alster since November 1996. He describes his experience in his own words:

Over these past eight plus years it has been my privilege to represent Alster in our largest market, Western Washington. Given the nature of many of our projects, I feel a partner with many of the agencies and organizations I have worked with these past years.

I must start with a most recent event. June 25 I was hospitalized with viral meningitis. The stay lasted eight days! As a rep we are very much self-employed. We adhere to the wisdom of the Good Book, which says: ... If a man shall not work, neither shall he eat. Yet, I was not alone - the Alster crew stepped in immediately, taking calls; processing orders; visiting customers; basically running my business while carrying their own responsibilities. My customers and my business were well served throughout my illness.

I have received more cards, notes, email, and phone calls to my wife Ann than I would have imagined in my wildest dreams.

This brief chapter in my experience shows the heart of this group we call Alster. It speaks to the professionalism, but more, it reveals the value we place on our relationships with one another and with those we represent and our customers.

I cannot end without thanking my bride Ann. She has full time responsibilities as a project manager and IT professional at Boeing. We enjoy golf, sailing and Scripture.

ACES 2005

ACES 2005 will be Tuesday, October 4 in Salem; Wednesday, October 5 in Issaquah; and Thursday, October 6 in Anchorage. We will have the traditional training seminars, open exhibit area, free lunch and door prizes for you to win. Ω



Steve Stouffer
6703 154th Place SE
Bellevue, WA 98006

Phone: 800-365-1272
Fax: 425-747-4021
Email: steve@alster.com

FIND US FAST
WWW.ALSTER.COM