

RFI-148 250 Selected for EAS Upgrade

STI Engineering has won a contract to supply a total of 480 250W VHF paging transmitters for the Victorian Emergency Alerting System (EAS) upgrade.

Following a three year development, the multi-million dollar contract marks an exciting start for the recently released RFI-148 250 paging transmitter.



Managed by ESTA, Victoria's Emergency Services Telecommunications Authority, and operated by Visionstream Pty Ltd, the EAS network provides emergency alerts to more than 40,000 volunteer personnel in the Country Fire Authority, Ambulance Victoria and the Victoria State Emergency Service. The system consists of sophisticated, comprehensive emergency message delivery, management and reporting regime, along with a 24x7 Network Operations Centre and help desk for network users.

The EAS network will utilise dual channel transmitter sites covering the state of Victoria, providing a guaranteed method of paging message delivery to all populated areas of the state.

STI Engineering has participated in real network Alpha and Beta trials prior to the contract award to ensure that the transmitter met all performance and feature characteristics required for the mission-critical system.

Visionstream cited the companies' good working relationship as well as STI Engineering's proven capability in large project management, engineering knowledge and high business ethics as key reasons for the selection.

The RFI-148 250 offers the system increased usability and diagnostics with integrated isolator for VSWR measurements, SNMP diagnostics, remote firmware upgrade capability and a sniffer port for message transmission confirmation by external receiver/decoders.

The 250 Watt output power eliminates the need for an external amplifier and STI Engineering's efforts to increase the MTBF of the transmitter to industry leading standards will ensure high availability, reliability and longevity for the system.

Visionstream makes use of the paging transmitter's inbuilt features of carrier offset and external 10MHz reference to eliminate the common causes of message loss such as simulcast delay spread and zero beating.

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