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CASE STUDY

RACE2RECOVERY



INMARSAT GLOBAL GOVERNMENT
COMMUNICATIONS MADE CERTAIN

This case study is over 5 years old. Whilst the specific hardware mentioned may have been superseded with more advanced models, it proves the longevity and capability of Inmarsat's L-band services. With proven technology and global coverage, you can rely on our services for [#communicationsmadecertain](#)

RACE2RECOVERY TEAM COMPLETES THE DAKAR RALLY



"Race2Recovery epitomises the spirit of the Dakar."
Etienne Lavigne
Director of the Dakar Rally, A.S.O



HELP FOR HEROES

Race2Recovery are a racing team with a huge difference. In 2013, the team of 28 mainly disabled male and female war veterans became the first predominantly disabled team to complete the world's most arduous race, the infamous Dakar Rally.

Their incredible combination of determination in the face of adversity and sense of humour inspired thousands around the world and was undoubtedly one of the highlights of the Dakar history. Inmarsat provided the team with BGAN terminals, IsatPhone Pro handheld phones and an unlimited voice and data service to allow them to keep in touch during their tough desert preparations in Morocco, as well as during the 8,000 km rally itself.

Getting their story out quickly and accurately - supported with startling pictures and live video interviews with global news outlets - helped the team raise awareness of their challenge and raise over £300,000 for Help for Heroes. With the satellite communications equipment and service supplied by official Communications Sponsor, Inmarsat, the team was able to communicate their progress through to the media as well as posting updates to the charity's website, Facebook and Twitter accounts.

On a logistics side, the team relied

on the voice and text capability of their IsatPhone Pro to ensure that the racers had a clear line of communications to their management and mechanical team in the bivouac often located in remote areas of the Atacama Desert or high in the Andes. Not only did this allow the racers to brief their support team on mechanical issues, but crucially also allowed a secure link to inform each other about very real safety concerns and accidents. This was perhaps never as important as when the crew was involved in a fatal road traffic collision in Peru where two Peruvians were killed and three Race2Recovery team members were seriously injured. The IsatPhones allowed the support team on the ground to coordinate the emergency services as well as being utilised to inform family members in the UK of the incident and to maintain a crucial communications link throughout their hospitalization.

800KM
The distance of the Dakar rally

£300,000
The target to be raised for Help for Hero's

28
The number of war veterans competing in the Race 2 Recovery team in 2013

AN OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT



On top of the voice connectivity made possible through the IsatPhone Pros, Inmarsat also provided the team with two different classes of BGAN Terminals

With a film crew in tow throughout the race and often incredibly close to the action, it was they who were given the Class 1, BGAN terminal with its broadband speeds of up to 492 kbps and the ability to stream live video at close to broadcast quality - all from a completely mobile satellite terminal.

The Explorer BGAN demonstrated incredible resilience and ruggedness, particularly as it was relied upon on a daily basis during the 14 day, 6000 mile extreme off road race. Not only was the terminal incredibly quick and easy to setup but it also was light and portable, stowing away easily when not in use.

The Explorer 500 was mainly used by the support crew in bivouac for crew welfare communications, which were crucial for team morale and by the PR team who were able to maintain and update the UK social media. Both terminals required very little power and were superbly robust and easy to use - particularly when fatigue set in after many 20-22 hour days.



EQUIPMENT

8 x IsatPhone Pro
1 x Thrane & Thrane Explorer 700 BGAN
1 x Thrane & Thrane Explorer 500
BGAN with magnetic large disc
antenna

Team Laydown (28 Crew, 10 vehicles)

4 x Qt Wildcat race cars
2 x crew per car (total of 8 crew)
1 x Renault Kerax Race truck
3 x crew
2 x 8x8 T5 Support trucks
5 x crew total
2 x Land Rover Discovery's
4 x crew each (total of 8 crew)
1 x Land Rover Defender 130
4 x crew
Route – 6,000 miles
Peru, Chile, Argentina, Chile



ISATPHONE PRO

- Telephony
- Voice mail
- Text and email messaging
- Longest battery life – 8 hours talk time, 100 hours standby
- IP 54 rated
 - dust, splash and shock resistant;
 - operates -20°C to +55°C
 - best humidity tolerance, 0 to 95%
- Global coverage, no roaming charge
- Bluetooth support
- Range of docking solutions – vehicular, maritime, land



EXPLORER 500

- The most used terminal in the world of BGAN. Unmatched in deployed quantities, the EXPLORER 500 is the preferred choice to support various applications
- Powerful: The ideal combination of performance and portability. Provides simultaneous high quality voice and broadband access at speeds up to 464 kbps. It supports LAN, USB, Bluetooth and phone/fax interfaces
- Lightweight: Weighing only 1.4 kg and smaller than a standard laptop. Making it easy to carry along when travelling the world



EXPLORER 700

- Versatility: The flagship in the EXPLORER Series provides multiple interfaces to support a wide range of applications. Ideal for video streaming applications and large file transfer and can be used by smaller workgroups sharing a temporary or semi permanent office environment
- High-speed: The fastest BGAN terminal on the market with download and upload at 492 kbps. Moreover, it supports Inmarsat's BGAN X-Stream, on-demand streaming at +384 kbps for applications demanding outstanding performance
- Rough environments: Designed to withstand severe environmental conditions such as humidity, dust, extreme weather and changing temperatures



"We are very grateful to Inmarsat for their support. And, I'm delighted to report, that their satellite communications played a major role throughout the race. Having access to portable and robust broadband data services and satellite phones as we crossed the mountains and deserts of southern South America was crucial to our safety and performance. It also enabled us to keep family, friends and supporters across the world up-to-date with regular postings on social media sites."

Captain Tony Harris,
Race2Recovery's team Co-Director and a former Captain in the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers





"This is an outstanding achievement, I have followed the team's progress in South America with mounting admiration. I appreciate that overcoming serious injury is tough enough but to have then competed on equal terms with the world's greatest off-road drivers across the exceptionally difficult terrain of the Dakar Rally ... well, that is staggering!

"Inmarsat is proud to have supported the team and to have helped them to raise money for Tedworth House Personnel Recovery Centre, a Help for Heroes project in the UK."

Andy Start, President
Inmarsat Global
Government.

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