# MOBILE PACKET DATA SERVICE

# Technical Specifications

The Inmarsat Global Area Network supports the Mobile Packet Data service, Mobile ISDN service, voice and low speed data and fax. This data sheet describes the uses, features and benefits of the Mobile Packet Data service. (For details of the Mobile ISDN service, refer to the data sheet for Mobile ISDN).

The Mobile Packet Data service provides a cost-effective way of using Inmarsat satellite services for a wide range of corporate data applications. The significance of the service is that the user can be charged for the amount of data sent and received, rather than the time for which they are connected. For the majority of normal office applications, such as corporate e-mail, intranet, web browsing and LAN access, this mode of operation can prove to be more cost-effective than the Mobile ISDN service. This is because when using these applications, the majority of the time is spent browsing the on-screen information and responding to it and therefore the communications link is idle.

The service works by allowing users to share 64kbits/s satellite channels with a number of concurrent users. Because channels are shared, the speed at which the information from a particular user is transmitted depends on how many users are transmitting at any given time. As more users log in, they are shared between the available channels and so the speed will reduce. However, more channels can be added as demand increases, so that the speed of transmission is suitable for the range of corporate applications.

If the application is time-critical, the Mobile ISDN service should be used, which guarantees transmission speed by using a dedicated channel.

### Uses

The Mobile Packet Data service is used for applications which are interactive in nature. For instance:

- Corporate e-mail
- Local Area Network (LAN) access
- Web browsing
- Database queries

**Note:** Bandwidth-intensive applications such as file transfer and videoconferencing are better suited to the Mobile ISDN service.

### Features and Benefits

- A cost-effective, high-speed solution to many standard office applications
- Simple to configure and quick and easy to set up
- Compact and versatile equipment, with a range of interfaces with PCs and other hardware

### Service Characteristics

- Packet data service designed to support the range of Internet Protocol (IP) applications
- Data rate varies depending on operating conditions

### Hardware

The Mobile Packet Data services are supported by a number of different manufacturers' hardware. Although the technical details vary from one hardware product to another, there is a generic set of features that apply to all of the products.

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| Feature | Details |
|---|---|
| **Lightweight** | The units typically weigh between 3.5kg and 5kg (7.7lbs and 11lbs), including the modem unit, battery and antenna. |
| **Compact** | Typical dimensions when collapsed are approximately 300mm x 200mm x 60mm (11.8" x 7.9" x 2.4"). |
| **SIM card** | The SIM card identifies which user is using the MSU. The card contains the numbers which are used to contact this user and defines user preferences, such as the network service provider, stored number list and so on. Use of the SIM card is protected by a PIN number, preventing unauthorised use. |
| **Telephone handset** | Depending on the product, the telephone handset is either built in to the modem unit, or the product uses standard DECT cordless handsets. |
| **Battery life** | Battery life depends entirely on what the equipment is being used for and the conditions, but you would typically expect to get about 70 hours of standby and around 4 hours for voice. |
| **Battery type** | NiMH or LiIon |
| **External power** | The units typically have a DC input in the range 9.5 - 19 VDC (some products accept variable input range).<br><br>All products provide an AC adapter accepting 90 - 264 VAC, 47 - 63 Hz. |
| **Minimum environmental conditions specifications** | **Operating** -25°C to +55°C<br>**Storage** -25°C to +55°C |
| **Connectors** | Typical connectors provided by a product are:<br><br>**ISDN NT1** For connection to standard ISDN equipment.<br>**RS-232** For connection to a PC via a 9 pin DSUB connector.<br>**Universal Serial Bus (USB)** For connection to other USB enabled equipment, such as PCs.<br>**Antenna** TNC/BNC type connector for connecting the co-axial cable from the antenna. |
| **Configuration** | The operation and characteristics of the modem unit can be configured using a PC connected to the unit via the RS-232 connector. The information for how to do this will be provided in the individual product user guides from each manufacturer.<br><br>Whilst all MSUs come with default port assignments it is possible to change these assignments using this software. |
| **User interface** | The products each have some form of user interface, typically consisting of a liquid crystal display and a small number of keys for inputting information. |
| **User support** | The products are supplied with a CD-ROM containing a Windows-based user interface programme to configure the product, application notes, a user manual and other useful information. |

Refer to the individual manufacturer's data sheets for information specific to their product at:
**www.nera.no** **www.tt.dk** **www.glocom-us.com**
**www.eci.com** **www.otter.co.uk**

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