

Harris Completes Tyco Buy, Acquires SolaCom

Harris completed its previously announced acquisition of the Tyco Electronics Wireless Systems business. The acquisition is expected to be a significant contributor to Harris earnings in fiscal 2011 and fiscal 2012.

"The combination of the Wireless Systems business with our successful RF Communications business creates a powerful supplier in the growing \$9 billion global LMR systems market," said Howard L. Lance, chairman, president and CEO of Harris. "The acquisition was completed ahead of schedule, and integration activities are under way."

In June, Harris signed a definitive agreement to acquire the air traffic control (ATC) business unit of SolaCom Technologies, a privately held company in Gatineau, Quebec. The SolaCom ATC acquisition will provide Harris the ability to

address all segments of the air traffic control voice/data systems market and further positions the company to support the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Next Generation Air Transportation System (NextGen), a company statement said.

SolaCom's ATC business has about 50 employees who provide voice and data communications systems and solutions for air traffic facilities and radio communications between airplanes in flight and air traffic controllers. The business has more than 200 customers on six continents. The business will become part of the Harris mission-critical networks business, providing customized critical components for communications and weather solutions.

Harris is the prime contractor for the \$3.5 billion, 15-year FAA Telecommunications Infrastructure (FTI) program, awarded to Harris in 2002. "This transaction will

position SolaCom very well for accelerated growth in our remaining business drivers, which are in the markets of public safety, homeland security, infrastructure protection as well as C4I. The transaction will also offer the vastly increased potential of Harris to our existing ATC customers, of which we are very proud," said Franz Plangger, SolaCom CEO.

Harris also announced the distribution of the about 56 percent of outstanding shares of Harris Stratex Networks. Harris shareholders of record received 0.248418 of a share of Harris Stratex class A common stock for each share of Harris common stock held.

The spin-off will result in a \$60 million to \$70 million after-tax charge in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2009, which will be reflected in discontinued operations in Harris' financial statement.

(COE) and Etherstack completed functional testing of seven different Project 25 (P25) subscriber units on a two-site, trunked and conventional P25 network installed in Cape May County, N.J.

The COE tested subscriber units from EF Johnson Technologies, Harris, Icom, Kenwood Communications, Relm Wireless, Tait Electronics and Vertex Standard. "We found a high level of interoperability for calls among the units, including emergency calls," said Ed Vea, the COE's project manager. "We tested encrypted calls, unit-to-unit calls, and group calls in both conventional and trunked modes; and of course, multisite operation in the trunked mode."

The network is composed of repeaters from Kenwood, Tait and a manufacturer with Etherstack's P25 RFSS network controller application running on a Cisco 2811 AXP router tying it together. "The COE is tasked under its agreement with the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) to support the federal government's goal of ensuring

interoperability to state and local public safety," said Rick Mulvihill, director of the COE. "We were thrilled with the results of the interoperability testing. Now we're gearing up to test newly introduced multiband radios."

Nathan Coates, Etherstack's project manager, said the company plans to test some common elements of a network such as consoles and voice recorders, which will connect to Etherstack softswitched infrastructure via P25's Console Subsystem Interface (CSSI). "We've been testing these components in our labs and feel it's time to put them on a live network to let users experience them," Coates said.

Richmond Automates Alarm Alerts to PSAPs

The city of Richmond, Va., and Intergraph automated transmission of security alarm alerts directly to an appropriate public-safety answering point's (PSAP) CAD system, reducing response time by at least two to three minutes, a company statement said.

Richmond's two-year pilot, called

the external alarm interface exchange project, incorporates Intergraph public-safety systems and eliminated about 6,000 telephone calls from residential and commercial security companies. This reduction means more efficient use of 9-1-1 call-taker resources.

Sprint Nextel to Sell Midwest iDEN Assets

Sprint Nextel announced its process for finding a buyer and divesting certain iDEN assets in parts of several Midwestern states. The sale of these assets will bring Sprint into compliance with an Illinois court ruling requiring the company to cease owning, operating or managing the Nextel National Network in markets primarily located in parts of Illinois, Iowa, Michigan and Nebraska.

The sale process, including any subsequent transaction, is expected to be fully completed in advance of the court-ordered deadline of Jan. 25, 2010. No assets associated with Sprint's CDMA will be sold as part of the iPCS court ruling.