



Following product launches at the Emergency Services Show, Primetech, the systems integrator and technology developer, has seen a surge of interest in its new and upgraded systems - the lightweight MultiPod version of the Cobra firefighting system, FireCam OnCall 4K body-worn cameras and EasyTrac mobility mats

The first multi-agency Self Contained Communications Trailer with MultiNet Comms Ka-band mobile satellite broadband system, incident ground WiFi, an eight metre mast supporting a wide range of different frequencies and radio systems, powered by a silent running generator



EasyTrac mats are light and compact, providing fire service vehicles with the means to get out of trouble rather than requiring engineering support

Lightweight MultiPod Cobra, FireCam OnCall cameras and EasyTrac Mats generate strong industry interest for Primetech



Primetech's Lightweight Cobra fast response extinguishing system is generating strong interest because of its ability to buy valuable, 'stop-the-clock' time in challenging on-call, rural or hard-to-reach locations

The new FireCam OnCall range of 4K high resolution, heat-resistant helmet and body-worn cameras can transmit imagery using their own WiFi or be linked to the COFDM Mesh WiFi of the MultiNet Comms system

According to Primetech Director Henry Walker: "Primetech has transformed the world leading Coldcut™ COBRA extinguishing system into a self-propelled unit. This we believe presents a viable proposition for inclusion in smaller vehicles (sub 3.5 tonnes) as a complement to front-line appliances, especially in challenging on-call, rural, or hard-to-reach locations.

"The lightweight MultiPod™ COBRA is a brand-new concept that retains the same firefighting capability as the standard Cold Cut COBRA model with the benefit of a substantial reduction in weight, while retaining the same method of operation, therefore enhancing the speed and flexibility of a lighter weight device on utility vehicles.

"The system has the key benefit of allowing fires to be reached and tackled at greater speed as a result of the COBRA unit being reduced in size and weight, allowing it to be carried on faster, lighter utility-style and other smaller vehicles.

"One aspect of the smaller vehicle option that is particularly appealing is that of business continuity/resilience during the winter months (four-wheel-drive vehicles can usually still respond to remote communities in snow and ice).

"Primetech's version of the Cobra extinguishing system is an affordable, self-propelled unit, enhanced with the

addition of a conventional branch-style misting nozzle. This makes the unit a viable proposition for inclusion in a smaller vehicle, flexibly crewed/deployed as a complement to front-line appliances, bringing fast response capability with enormous potential to buy valuable, 'stop-the-clock' time for reducing fire spread.

"The popularity of the EasyTrac mobility mat system took us by surprise," said Mr Walker. "We put the mats on the stand and were very surprised by the number of enquiries we received from fleet managers whose job it is to go out and retrieve vehicles that have got into trouble. The product features of particular interest were how robust and light the mats are, and how manageable.

"Comments were made on how carrying the mats on an appliance could make the difference between the appliance getting into trouble and not being able to get itself home, and getting into trouble and sorting itself out,

meaning engineering support wouldn't need to go out and help get it unstuck.

"The mats are light and compact, so we estimate that sufficient mats to cover one and a half times the vehicle length would be around 18 metres, requiring 18 one-metre mats (which are low in weight and very compact).

"The new FireCam OnCall range of 4K high resolution, heat-resistant helmet and body-worn cameras received a huge amount of interest. We will have trials starting shortly with a number of fire services as a result of the show, primarily in the training area but also for operations. The quality of the imagery recorded is superb and will be used for mentoring review of training activities.

"The cameras can transmit imagery using their own WiFi, and for longer range they can be linked to the COFDM Mesh WiFi of the MultiNet Comms system. Imagery is also recorded onto SD cards for auditing and monitoring purposes, and for backup.

"Some services are also considering using the FireCam OnCall range of cameras as part of the MultiNet Comms suite of integrated communications solutions when they replace Incident Command Units in future years, linking Ka-band mobile satellite broadband with multi channel radio, video and WiFi."

The cameras are so high spec that HD versions were chosen by an award-winning production company which had a requirement to record broadcast quality footage (onto SD cards) for a live action documentary series that will be shown in the autumn on UKTV's Really Channel. The documentary follows firefighters undertaking their various professional roles in West Midlands Fire Service. More information can be found on <https://www.wmfs.net/really-lands-first-ever-uk-fire-documentary-series/>

The first new model of the multi-agency Self Contained Communications Trailer, built for a consortium of local authorities around Dublin, was also on display at the show and generated a lot of favourable comment and interest. The system includes a MultiNet Comms Ka-band mobile satellite broadband system, incident ground WiFi and an 8-metre mast capable of supporting a wide range of different frequencies and radio systems - UHF, VHF, TETRA - plus VoIP, digital television, satellite phones etc. All of these systems, plus a silent running generator, are housed in a robust, waterproof, long-life co-polymer pod carried on a trailer that can be towed by non-specialist vehicles and drivers, both on- and off-road, thereby providing a low-cost communications alternative to complement much larger, but less mobile, ICUs.

Recent users of Primetech systems include a mountain rescue team and a maritime pollution monitoring project. The latter uses a Ka-band MultiNet satellite system for the transfer of drone helicopter-sourced marine imagery and data into the Cloud for an innovative trial project set up to monitor



Kendal Mountain Rescue Team is using a Primetech-supplied MultiNet Ka-band mobile satellite broadband system to deliver reliable, critically important communications support to mountain search and rescue teams saving lives in remote areas

engine smoke pollution from the vast amounts of international shipping moving around European coasts.

The drone helicopter collects pollution emissions data from vessels to check whether cheaper, lower-grade, more polluting fuels are being used, and the monitoring team and system can be deployed throughout Europe on very short notice. This is not the first use of Primetech satcomms for environmental monitoring, however - it already supplies a MultiNet satcomms system to the Met Office for support of its flexible volcanic ash-monitoring programme.

The Kendal Mountain Rescue Team (MRT) is using a MultiNet Ka-band mobile satellite broadband system to deliver highly reliable, critically important communications support to mountain search and rescue teams saving lives in remote areas, often in appalling weather. Mountain rescue teams rely on web-based applications to support their SAR activities, so reliable mobile satellite broadband access is essential.

According to Phil Allen, a member of the team and radio communications officer: "Kendal Team's operational patch has several mobile data blackspots, so having the ability to deploy a vehicle with mobile satellite broadband onboard allows the team to operate both SARCALL and MRMAP systems within these blackspot areas.

"The MultiNet system is very well built, with consideration given to waterproofing and corrosion resistance. We have operated the system in moderate wind conditions with a good stable broadband connection maintained throughout.

"We have run various training sessions and have developed a pictorial assembly guide that works very well. Setup time is usually about ten minutes. The system also came with high quality storage cases, so I can only say 'Excellent Quality Control of the final product.'"

Kendal Mountain Rescue Team is not the only MRT using a Primetech system. Swaledale MRT also uses a Primetech-supplied MultiNet system. "Swaledale Mountain Rescue operate in remote and inaccessible areas of the Yorkshire Dales where there is limited 4G access," said Steve Clough, Rescue Controller, Swaledale MRT.

"Increasingly we rely on internet-based applications when responding to call-out emergencies in our area. As a consequence, we have invested in a Primetech-supplied MultiNet satellite system, which provides us with reliable and high quality internet access.

"This is an invaluable addition to our operational capability, particularly for a service where often every second counts."

www.kendalmountainrescue.org.uk
www.swaledalemrt.org.uk

www.primetech.co.uk