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St. Lawrence Seaway

Organization: St. Lawrence Seaway

Technology Focus: Telex Dispatch technology

Duration of the project: 2009

The St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation is responsible for the safe and efficient movement of marine traffic through the Canadian Seaway facilities, which consists of 13 of the 15 locks between Montreal and Lake Erie.

St Lawrence Seaway has a radio system stretching in a straight line across a large portion of Southern Ontario. This radio system is used to communicate with ships travelling on the lakes and through the lock systems of the Seaway. The receive signals travel from multiple towers over various mediums to a central dispatch location at Glendale.

Currently, multiple receive signals arrive at dispatch from multiple towers causing poor receive quality. The main goals were to provide a communication system that would answer all of their requirements, provide a user-friendly GUI interface, interoperability and an easy path for future upgrades.

Telex Dispatch equipment is ensuring seamless communications along the length of one of the world's busiest maritime thoroughfares: the St. Lawrence Seaway.

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ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY

The Seaway's primary communications center is at St. Lambert, QC – one of the seven main locks that connect the Seaway's system of canals. The St. Lambert location is equipped with two primary Telex C-Soft positions (interfaced with IP-223 ROIP adapters), one of which is a supervisory position for controlling communications over the length of the Seaway about 200 kilometres.

Three more C-Soft positions are dedicated to controlling the locks. All of the above are backed up by two identical C-Soft positions at a smaller center at lock two in Sainte-Catherine, QC. Eight Telex IP-1616 consoles are distributed at the seven locks along the Seaway, allowing the main St. Lambert center to communicate locally with other communications colleagues, maintenance staff, ships, etc. In addition, 12 IP 2002 consoles were specified for specific management locations to access different channels.

All audio traffic is recorded on Telex Network recorders with RDR (Remote Data Reviewer) capability from remote locations. This recorder logs all audio traffic and events from each console and makes that information available to the various RDR locations for viewing.

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