

5 FAH-2 H-650 SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS

(CT:TEL-12; 03-08-2005)
(Office of Origin: IRM/APR/RG)

5 FAH-2 H-651 GENERAL POLICY

(CT:TEL-12; 03-08-2005)
(Uniform all agencies)

As set forth in 5 FAM 500, all Department domestic organizations and missions abroad must address telecommunications outages and recovery actions in their respective contingency plans. IRM supports satellite communication as a contingency measure in a crisis situation or in the event of telephone and telegraphic circuit outage. *IRM/OPS/ITL/LWS/RPB* (IT Infrastructure, Telecommunications Wireless and Data Services Division, *Radio Programs Branch*) manages the satellite program for contingency voice communications and provides posts with either tactical satellite terminals that use special military protocols or commercial INMARSAT (International Maritime Satellite Organization) satellite terminals. DTS-PO provides satellite terminals for primary or backup data communications.

5 FAH-2 H-652 INMARSAT TERMINALS

(TL:TEL-2; 05-23-2002)
(Uniform all agencies)

- a. INMARSAT (International Maritime Satellite Organization) terminals are digital satellite interfaces that provide telephone, data, and facsimile communication to and from mobile subscribers anywhere within the worldwide coverage area of the INMARSAT system, from 70 degrees South to 70 degrees North.
- b. INMARSAT terminals modulate voice or data signals into radio signals, which are transmitted to a pre-selected satellite, then redirected to an earth station, to the receiving unit and demodulated into voice or data signals. To a user, the INMARSAT operates like a telephone. The user can simply pick up the INMARSAT telephone handset and dial the telephone number of another telephone or a special dialing sequence for another INMARSAT.

5 FAH-2 H-653 CONTINGENCY VOICE TERMINALS

5 FAH-2 H-653.1 Installation

(TL:TEL-2; 05-23-2002)
(Uniform State/USAID)

IRM personnel at post or a RIMC technician can install the necessary satellite hardware and peripherals and configure according to post needs. To use INMARSAT terminals in the secure mode, the units must be connected to a STE/STU III. Currently, only one INMARSAT site, site 13 in Canada, supports STE/STU III operations.

5 FAH-2 H-653.2 Testing and Maintenance

(CT:TEL-12; 03-08-2005)
(Uniform State/USAID)

To ensure the operational readiness of the equipment, IPC must implement a monthly test schedule of satellite terminals and train key personnel as directed by post management. If equipment malfunctions, contact the RIMC or *IRM/OPS/ITL/LWS/RPB* for troubleshooting or repair/return instructions. The repair of INMARSAT terminals not under warranty is on a fee-for-service basis and will be paid for by the appropriate bureau in accordance with existing *Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)*, or post must provide fiscal data when returning a terminal for repair services.

5 FAH-2 H-653.3 INMARSAT M Terminal

(TL:TEL-2; 05-23-2002)
(Uniform State/USAID)

- a. The Department has deployed various types of INMARSAT terminals to posts abroad. The INMARSAT M terminal has been the most widely disseminated because of its overall utility, low cost, and ease of use in all contingency applications.
- b. The M terminal is compact, lightweight, portable, and housed in a durable, hard plastic briefcase. The bottom piece contains the main control unit, power supply, telephone handset, antenna-pointing map, and a panel port for a PC, telephone, fax, AC power and DC power. The detachable lid functions as an antenna to carry the satellite signal between the satellite and main control unit.

5 FAH-2 H-653.3-1 Emergency Use

(TL:TEL-2; 05-23-2002)
(Uniform State only)

The Operations Center, S/ES-O, will pay costs associated with using satellite communications during a crisis, if the post receives prior authorization from S/ES-O.

5 FAH-2 H-653.3-2 Discretionary Use

(CT:TEL-00; 03-08-2005)
(Uniform State/USAID)

Posts may use the INMARSAT M terminals without prior authorization from S/ES-O, but *post must pay* all associated costs. Contact DTS-PO for the current per-minute charge. *Post must also pay* maintenance charges for repairing damages that exceed regular deterioration through normal use, as determined by the vendor repair facility.

5 FAH-2 H-654 CONTINGENCY DATA TERMINALS

(TL:TEL-2; 05-23-2002)
(Uniform all agencies)

Where DTS-PO has provided and authorized an INMARSAT system as a backup for post's data communications, DTS-PO will pay the usage charges for the data communications. Due to the high costs for 64 Kbps service, on-the-air time should be minimized, unless critical operational circumstances dictate otherwise, e.g., emergencies and time-critical traffic. The frequency and duration of INMARSAT activation to support immediate operational requirements or to process urgent correspondence is at the discretion of the post. However, this is normally limited to 2 hours over a 24-hour period. Post should maintain accurate records of INMARSAT activation and on-the-air time, and be prepared to pay for excessive usage. DTS-PO does not fund voice or fax, with the exception of that required by the PCC to establish the INMARSAT data communications link.

5 FAH-2 H-655 THROUGH H-659 UNASSIGNED