

March 26, 2009
SKY Perfect JSAT Corporation

Creating a Co-mobility Society Project **Fiscal 2009 Life-Line Stations Initiative**

SKY Perfect JSAT Corporation (Head Office: Minato-ku, Tokyo; President & CEO: Masanori Akiyama; hereafter SKY Perfect JSAT) is collaborating with Keio University on the Creating a Co-Mobility Society Project,¹ which was selected by the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) for the "Creation of Innovation Centers for Advanced Interdisciplinary Research Areas" program in fiscal 2007. Specifically, SKY Perfect JSAT is helping researchers to build packages for satellite communications systems as part of research and development of life-line stations (hereafter LLS). Unlike the communications equipment owned by government institutions for use when infrastructure is damaged in a natural disaster or other emergency, LLS are easy-to-operate information communications systems intended to provide an information network to the public at large. LLS take advantage of SKY Perfect JSAT's VSAT² technology, which is anticipated to see increasing utilization going forward.

LLS are compact, light-weight package communication systems created from VSAT terrestrial terminals and wireless base stations (such as wireless LAN, WiFi, and mobile phones). They are capable of running on a car battery or other small power source that would be readily available in the event of a disaster. They ensure that Internet connectivity is available within a short time in and around the disaster area. At the same time, LLS play a complementary role as community wireless systems, minimizing the amount of time that authorities and residents are out of communication.

On Monday, March 2, a demonstration of an LLS was held in Kurihara City, which has concluded a cooperative agreement with Keio University for the Creating a Co-mobility Society Project. Kurihara City suffered extensive damage in the Iwate-Miyagi Nairiku Earthquake in 2008, and the demonstration was of a versatile system to facilitate the exchange of information between disaster response headquarters and affected residents, currently under development by Keio University. As Kurihara City Mayor Isamu Sato and other related parties looked on, researchers simulated a disruption of Internet and telephone networks, and in about five minutes, an information communications environment was set up using the VSAT satellite system, wireless LAN, a car battery, demonstrating the benefits of practical application.

SKY Perfect JSAT's VSAT satellite system, which is used in LLS, offers high-performance and ease-of-setup. As a result, social demand for VSAT satellite systems has been growing year by year, not only as a means of ensuring communications networks in disaster areas, but also as a method of distributing video directly from a filming location. In fiscal 2009, while continuing LLS tests and application studies in disaster and at-risk areas, SKY Perfect JSAT has also been using VSAT satellite systems to popularize satellite broadband in order to close the digital divide. Through satellite communications services, SKY Perfect JSAT will develop new business opportunities by supporting the security, safety, and convenience of society.

1. Co-mobility society: A hybrid of the words "community" and "mobility." Refers to a communal society in which geographic location of information can move via the Internet.
2. VSAT: Abbreviation of "Very Small Aperture Terminal," a two-way satellite communications transmitter and receiver.

Conceptual Diagram of the Life-Line Station

