

PacStar Solutions: Facilitate the Transition to IP Telephony

The Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA) is setting strategy to migrate from existing Time Division Multiplexing (TDM) telephony switches to an IP-based communications architecture. This network migration will start in 2010 and roll out over several years.

Military installations can accomplish the transition to IP telephony with minimal disruption, equipment replacement, and training by implementing PacStar's 6800 Small End Office (SMEO) solution. PacStar invested over three years in joint development with Cisco to build best-of-breed products to meet Joint Interoperability Test Command (JITC) requirements and DoD needs.

Benefits of PacStar solutions for the DoD include:

- **Collaboration Support:** PacStar is built on top of Cisco Unified Communications platform already used in many DoD agencies. It provides the traditional telephony features available in private branch exchange (PBX) systems, as well as advanced capabilities that help support the mission, such as mobility, presence, preference, and rich conferencing services.
- **Return on Investment:** Lightly trained people can be assigned to operate PacStar solutions because of the simple management interface, which automates and simplifies tasks such as adding and managing users, setting up hotlines, managing call tracing, setting up phone services, configuring the system and routers, and more. PacStar SMEO or DVX solutions act as a force multiplier because installations can manage and monitor the equipment centrally, with fewer people.
- **Reliability:** Some PacStar solutions are housed in a ruggedized enclosure that meets Military Standard 810F requirements for transportation, vibration, shock, and temperature. Keeping sensitive electronic equipment at the right temperature and preventing damage from shake and shock helps to increase uptime for critical communications. PacStar SMEO and DVX solutions are built with redundant, commercial-off-the-shelf components and provide 99.999-percent availability.
- **Investment Protection:** Installations that deploy a PacStar 6800 SMEO will be able to meet upcoming requirements for Local Session Controller (LSC) and IPv6 with nominal expense. PacStar solutions also preserve existing TDM investments because administrators can shift the bulk of voice communications to IP while continuing to operate existing TDM endpoints, such as analog handsets, secure terminal units, secure telephone equipment, and fax.
- **Scalability:** The PacStar 6800 SMEO is JITC-certified to support up to 30,000 VoIP handsets and 7900 analog handsets. Deployments can start small and then add capacity and features with incremental investments. For example, a temporary forward operating base might start with a small PacStar DVX kit and then expand to a full PacStar SMEO when it becomes an enduring installation.
- **Portability:** The small footprint of the PacStar SMEO makes it more portable and easier to deploy than TDM equipment, and frees up payload space for other equipment.
- **Security:** The PacStar 6800 solution has recently received SMEO certification and has been subjected to JITC Information Assurance (IA) and Interoperability (IO) testing. It is secured against 14 Security Technical Implementation Guides (STIGs).

To learn more about the PacStar SMEO and DVX solutions, visit: www.cisco.com/go/fedunified.




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