

SATCOM DIRECT INTRODUCES NEW WIFI HUB AS BEST STANDALONE CONNECTIVITY SOLUTION FOR SMALL TO MID-SIZE AIRCRAFT

News / Business aviation



Satcom Direct Introduces New WiFi Hub: The Best Standalone Connectivity Solution for Small to Mid-Size Aircraft and the Perfect Enhancement to the SDR for Larger Aircraft

Functioning as both a router and a wireless access point, the SD WiFi Hub packs big technology into a small, easily-installed package.

The SD WiFi Hub is more than a wireless access point; it is the gateway for all voice and data communications on the aircraft. It is the ideal solution for operators who have a regional mission where email access and text messaging are top priority. Additionally, it serves to enhance the company's Satcom Direct Router (SDRTM) for ultra-long range aircraft where the SD WiFi Hub adds functionality to and enhances the performance in the cabin.

“By adding the SD WiFi Hub to our hardware lineup, SD now offers powerful connectivity solutions for any size aircraft. The Hub is the perfect platform for smaller airframes that previously were unable to utilize the SDR due to space constraints,” said Ken Bantoft, Chief Technology Officer for SD. “Now, operators can access many premium services previously unavailable to narrow body aircraft.”

The SD WiFi Hub serves as the onboard router and delivers many Satcom Direct value-added

services to the cabin, including GlobalVT® which enables voice and text on the user's personal smartphone, at all phases of flight, anywhere in the world. At 1.6 pounds, the Hub has the smallest and lightest form factor in aviation. Installation is easy, making it the perfect replacement solution for legacy 802.11 b/g/n wireless access points.

The Hub was engineered to utilize the very best components and technology. Its advanced hardware and software features include two Arinc 429 interfaces, configurable discrettes, it supports multiple SATCOM bearers and multiple Wi-Fi networks, and more.

When partnered with the SDR, the SD WiFi Hub provides up to an additional 900Mbps data rate to the cabin with both 2.4 and 5 GHz 802.11 b/g/n radios. The Hub expands capability and adds additional interfaces where they are needed, simplifying the installation and improving Wi-Fi coverage in the cabin. The SD WiFi Hub supports high definition media products and applications for all passengers, addressing buffering and gaps in cabin coverage.

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