

A better way to stay in touch with the office

The mini-M portable satellite phone is small and lightweight (2.4 kg/6 lb.) and ideal for e-mail and small data file transfers from anywhere in the world. If you are accustomed to traveling with your laptop/notebook computer, Stratos mini-M service becomes the perfect complement when you are in regions where access to good phone lines is inconvenient. The Stratos Action Pack carrying case with its reinforced strap, extra padding and lockable zippers carries both your laptop and mini-M portable phone in one rugged, lightweight case.

Your mini-M phone is just like another modem

Your laptop computer connects to your mini-M phone as it would to an external modem. Like a modem the mini-M phone connects your PC to the terrestrial phone/data network through Stratos. The mini-M phone can be used with many different applications and helps bring your office to a mobile location. The mini-M will support *Dial-Up Networking*, e-mail and file transfer.

Anyone who has used a terrestrial modem will be able to use the mini-M phone for data. Stratos can also provide detailed, easy-to-follow setup instructions that will connect you within minutes.

Only minimal setup is required:

- Ensure that you have the communications software of your choice installed on your laptop. This software may be Windows *Dial-Up Networking*, the mobile version of your office e-mail software, a file transfer package such as Procomm Plus or FTP (Internet file transfer protocol), or a combination of these packages.
- Select the Standard 9600 bps modem. This will allow your PC to communicate with the mini-M phone.
- Toll free technical assistance is also available by dialing +31 from your mini-M phone. This will connect to our 24-hour Stratos operations and customer support centre.

Tips for mini-M data users

Mobile users can increase their mini-M data transfer efficiency by following these simple rules:

- **Keep it short** — The larger the file, the longer it takes to send, therefore the greater the cost of the transfer. To reduce costs, cut any non-essential information from your messages. For spreadsheet applications, it pays to avoid tables and graphs and just send the raw data.
- **Check your files** — Check your file size before attaching it to an e-mail message. Word processing applications create large files due to additional information needed in the file. Therefore it is often better to embed your text into your e-mail message rather than sending file attachments.
- **Save your files as text only** — Sending a file saved as text will eliminate much of the overhead associated with larger word processing software programs, such as MS-Word or Word Perfect. For example, a 1500-MS-Word document without formatting becomes a 17 K (.doc) file. Saved as a text file (.txt), it will take up only 10 K. (In the *Save File as Type* box click *Text Only*).
- **Use compression** — Use of popular compression programs such as WinZip and PKZip on attachments can greatly reduce file sizes. Depending on the contents of the attachment (e.g. pure text files can be compressed much more dramatically than pictures), compression can reduce file size by about 50 per cent.

For larger files we recommend Inmarsat-B

Mini-M users accustomed to terrestrial modem speeds should reduce their file sizes before sending them. Many spreadsheets and text formatting applications add thousands of bytes to support various styles, functions, and templates in their documents. Sending these files over mini-M as e-mail attachments takes longer as this service supports transfer at 2.4 kbps only.

When file sizes are kept below 10 K, Stratos mini-M is your best value for satellite data service. If you need to transmit larger data files, Inmarsat-B is a better choice. But the Stratos mini-M's lower cost per minute makes it ideal when using e-mail or sending small data files.

International Customer Support Centre

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From terminal: 31# free of charge