

System Description

EMnet allows users to send messages to individual stations, groups of stations, or all stations on the EMnet network, and it provides confirmation of delivery in the form of a receipt. For receive only systems, Messages are transmitted to our EMnet server usually via an Internet connection using the TCP/IP protocol, and are then delivered to the intended stations by satellite broadcast. For more information on the EMnet system please review the material available on the website at www.Comlabs.com.

Standard System Components

- 1 meter satellite dish, non penetration roof mount
- Dish mounting hardware and 200ft of RG 6 non-plenum cable
- Satellite Receiver
- EMnet Software
- Desktop or Rack mount computer including mouse, keyboard and monitor. (If provided by Comlabs)

Pre Installation Information

The purchasing agency supplies Comlabs with contact information for each site to be deployed. The information supplied should include the site name, contact person, and site telephone number. Comlabs will then try to contact the site and direct them to the website, www.Comlabs.com to review the material there.

The customer will review the material available, complete the site survey form and communications test, and return them to Comlabs by e-mail installations@comlabs.com. The site will prepare for the installation appointment by providing the necessary documentation, computer access/ networking, and physical location. Please review the checklist for installation and network requirements before submitting the site survey form.

Once the site survey form has been submitted and the communications test completed Comlabs will contract with a technician to install your system. The technician will then contact you and schedule an appointment to install the system. If you have any questions during this process please feel free to contact Comlabs Logistics at 321-409-9898 option 2.

Installation Information

The installer will arrive at the date agreed upon for installation. Installation of the computer shall be limited to unpacking the computer, and connecting the computer to a customer supplied Ethernet connection, as well as the installation and testing of the EMnet software. Once the computer has been installed and the messaging system is operational the installer will then direct the customer to contact our office for telephone training. If training cannot be completed at this time the site contact can schedule training within 5 days. At this point the installer will begin the installation of the satellite equipment package.

The installer will perform the installation of the satellite equipment package in accordance with the data provided on the site survey form. Standard installation includes all labor and materials to install the satellite antenna, a non-penetrating roof mount with ballast, grounding of the antenna, installing up to 200 feet of non plenum RG6 to the satellite receiver, creating and sealing one wall penetration, and peaking the dish.

Normal installation time for the antenna system is four hours or less. In some cases, due to customer circumstances, more time may be required and may be billed per additional hour. Requirements for other than the standard non-penetrating roof mount, or the non-plenum RG6 cable may also result in additional charges. Please note: *Some States choose to pay for any additional costs incurred, so that the Customer Site is not responsible for extra expenses. To find out if your State has agreed to do this, please contact Comlabs or your Project Coordinator.*

It is necessary for the customer to provide a site contact person who will be available to the installer at all times during the installation to provide access and answer any questions that may arise with respect to the installation. Return trips to the site to complete the installation due to circumstances outside of the installer's control (with the exception of weather) and/ or incomplete or inaccurate site survey information, will result in an additional billing at

our labor rate per hour including travel time. The reasons for these return trips include but are not limited to an unprepared site, inaccurate or incomplete site survey form, failing the communications test, and failure to have someone meet the technician. *Once again, please note some States choose to pay any additional costs incurred.*

Training

Comlabs provides telephone training to familiarize the customer with the operation of the system. During training your system is also configured so that it has full functionality. Ideally, this training should take place while the installer is completing the installation of the satellite antenna. Training typically takes about 30 minutes, and it includes a walk-thru of all the various screens and menu items that comprise the EMnet system. If training cannot be done at the time of installation an appointment needs to be made within 5 days to complete the training and configuration of the EMnet system.

Training is done "live" and includes hands-on experience of actually sending and receiving messages. If the system includes EAS origination or reception those screens are included in the training with real messages being composed and delivered. Another option for training is power point presentations that you can download and go through at your own pace.

Comlabs has a long-standing policy of being available on an ongoing basis for training requests. If any of our customers would like additional training we urge them to call our office, and we will be happy to provide whatever training is necessary at no charge. In addition to the initial training, we urge our customers to use the system on a regular basis to send messages to our Comlabs demo system. By routinely using the system in this manner, customers may be assured that their operators will be ready and able to use the system correctly when necessary. To schedule training please call Jenny at 321-409-9898 x312.

Broadcaster Notes

Configuration

The EMnet/EAS software has various menu items that allow the broadcaster to configure the computer for proper operation. These include the ability to enter assigned FIPS and Event codes for both attended and unattended operation. Please refer to your state EAS plan to determine the proper configuration.

Computer Location

The computer should be located in an attended area where it can be monitored and accessed by station personnel to respond to and acknowledge incoming messages. The best locations tend to be in a master control room or a broadcast studio. We are aware that historically EAS equipment has been located inside an engineering rack that has limited access by station personnel. Regardless, we strongly encourage you to consider locating your EMnet/EAS computer in a more attended area. The reason for this is that the EMnet system is primarily a messaging system, and it is very possible that important and valuable information could be missed if the equipment is unattended.

Audio Output

The audio output from the EMnet/EAS computer is supplied via a 3.5mm phone jack located on the rear of the computer. The remote node software provides individual level adjustment for data tones (FSK), audio volume, and main output. If the EMnet system is being installed at a broadcaster location it will be necessary for the station engineer to connect the audio output of the computer to his EAS device. The audio level available from the computer is typically a maximum of -4 db. This level is usually not loud enough to provide good quality on-air audio, and in most cases broadcasters connect the audio to a distribution amplifier prior to connection to the EAS device.

Most distribution amplifier's, such as those offered by Henry or RDL, will work, however, Comlabs does manufacture a remote node interface unit designed specifically for this purpose. Upon completion of the connection to the EAS device, we suggest that the station engineer call Comlabs support for assistance and direction in setting levels for proper operation. Comlabs has included a reference calibrate tone in the EAS remote node software for this purpose.