

COMARK to Supply Multiple Transmitters to Puerto Rico for Repack and Hurricane Maria Recovery

SOUTHWICK, MA, May 30, 2018 – Hitachi Kokusai Electric Comark LLC (hereinafter “COMARK”), a manufacturer and supplier of DTV transmitters, encoding systems, and associated field services for over 45 years, has announced they will be supplying numerous PARALLAX® and E-Compact UHF transmitters to broadcasters in Puerto Rico.

Most of the Puerto Rican DTV stations were originally assigned to Phase 3 of the FCC’s repack process (except for two that were in Phase 10). The Phase 3 schedule has testing beginning in April of 2019 and the phase completion by June 21, 2019. Hurricane Maria, regarded as one of the most destructive storms to hit the island, has affected this schedule. Earlier this year, the FCC granted a request to stations in Puerto Rico to accelerate their timetable for repack. This decision allows broadcasters to move to their new repack channel sooner, eliminating the need to rebuild their facilities twice over the next year.

COMARK’s team traveled several times to the island and worked with the local DTV broadcasters to survey facilities and draft individual site / construction plans to get them back on the air on their post-repack channel. COMARK will be supplying new DTV transmitter systems to WNJX, WTIN, WAPA, WWSN, WCCV, WMTJ, WQTO, WJWN, WSJN-CD, and WQSJ-CD. Equipment production is currently underway with multiple shipments expected in the near term to support scheduled installations for both repack and non-repack stations. COMARK will provide program management, shipping logistics, and on-site labor for installation and proof-of-performance testing.

For high power requirements, COMARK will be supplying PARALLAX® high efficiency transmitters. PARALLAX is the transmitter that is “designed for repack”, providing broadband Doherty performance and a future proof design. PARALLAX offers broadcasters the highest power, liquid cooled, solid state transmitter available; up to 27.5kW TPO per rack cabinet, multiple cabinets for up to 100kW.

For low / medium power requirements, COMARK will be supplying the E-Compact series of high efficiency, air cooled, solid state UHF DTV transmitters. E-Compact air cooled DTV transmitters have been optimized for the US repack market with asymmetric broadband Doherty, solid state amplifier technology, requiring less energy to deliver more power. The heart of the transmitter is a 950W 3RU amplifier chassis. E-Compact is available in Transmitter Power Output (TPO) levels from 850W to more than 10kW. The E-Compact platform is compact and rugged, perfectly suited for broadcasters looking to replace older and less efficient equipment or to implement future ATSC 3.0 SFN systems.

“COMARK recognized the needs of the broadcasters in Puerto Rico and mobilized our team” says Dick Fiore, President and CEO of Hitachi Kokusai Electric Comark, LLC. “We are using our resources, production capacity, and expertise to help repack and recovery efforts. These stations in Puerto Rico will be utilizing the latest broadband Doherty technology initially for ATSC 1.0, but easily upgradeable for ATSC 3.0 in the future.”

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About Hitachi Kokusai Electric Comark LLC:

For over 45 years COMARK has been synonymous with broadcast expertise and innovation. A trusted partner to the world's leading broadcasters, COMARK has pioneered many developments that have shaped the industry, leading innovation in IOT & MSDC-IOT technology, transistorized solid-state technology, Digital Adaptive Pre-correction (DAP), and also winning multiple Emmy® Awards; and gaining numerous patents in technologies that have become fundamental to broadcasting. COMARK is now building on this great heritage with the release of an entirely new range of transmission products for terrestrial television broadcasting, and state-of-the-art products for scientific/industrial RF applications. With thousands of active COMARK transmission systems deployed worldwide and a global support presence, COMARK plans to continue to develop technologies for the future, with efficient performance initiatives that improve coverage and save power.

Information about products from Hitachi-Comark
is available at www.comarktv.com.

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