About Americatel

AMERICATEL is a history-making international telecommunications company that has developed a unique niche in the Americas. It is the first regional carrier dedicated to servicing the needs of multinational companies operating in the Latin American and Caribbean regions. Through an established network of strategic partners and affiliates in key markets, Americatel assures its clients the highest quality, cost-effective, end-to-end digital communications.

Americatel Corporation was formed in April, 1993 by ENTEL Chile, the largest long distance carrier in Chile and a pioneer in the privatization of Latin America's telecommunications industry. The company was founded upon the business premise that an explosion of trade and commerce in the Americas had created new requirements for voice and data communication services between companies and their distant divisions and customers in the region. A need had arisen for higher quality telecommunications services for businesses and in-country and intra-regional network solutions.

To meet this challenge, Americatel extended its reach in 1994, establishing alliances and joint ventures in Argentina, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Peru. These strategic partners include the region's principal private carriers and industry leaders, together comprising the Americatel/ENTEL Network. The Network continued its expansions in 1996 through a relationship with STET of Italy.

The commitment of Americatel and its affiliates to provide exceptional telecommunications solutions is second to none. The Americatel network has the strongest presence in Latin America, operating multiple hubs dedicated to the support of corporate network services within the region. Continuous efforts are being made to develop new services utilizing existing platforms and establishing commercial agreements with foreign telecommunications administrations to support new endeavors in the Americas.

Americatel®

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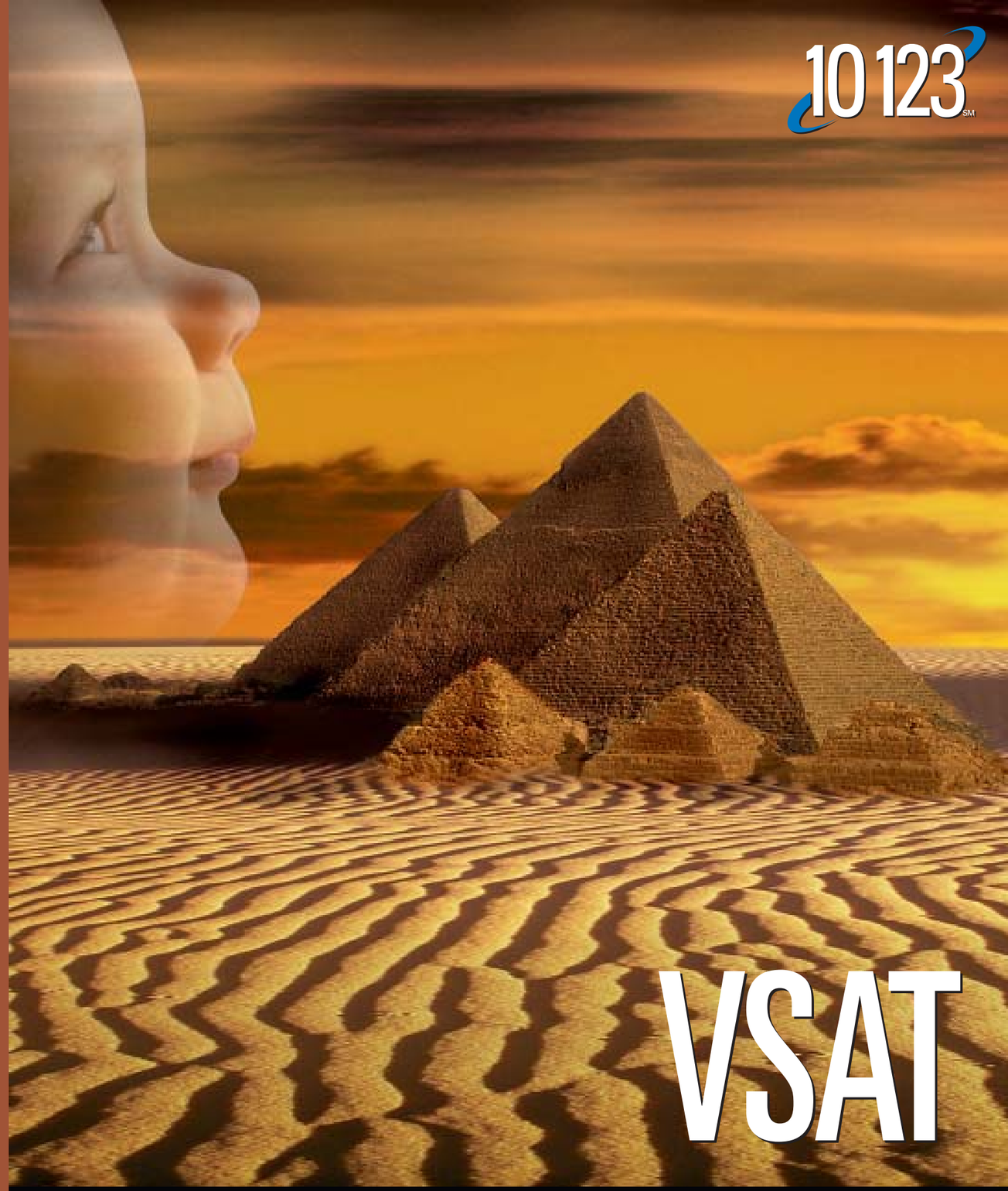

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VSAT

AMERICATEL'S Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSAT) services employ small antennas (2.4, 3.8, or 4.5 meters) located on customer premises anywhere in Latin America and/or the Caribbean. VSATs provide full duplex data and voice communications between foreign branch office(s) and corporate headquarters. In terms of availability and flexibility, the performance levels of VSAT networks are the highest in the industry. The VSAT terminal can be installed virtually anywhere in the region and it is completely independent of a country's local telecommunications infrastructure. The VSAT can also easily be relocated or taken down and reinstalled during hurricanes or other natural disasters – greatly reducing down time during emergency situations.

Our VSAT offering is a turnkey solution covering all aspects of the service provisioning, administration, management, and maintenance of the network. In support of our turnkey approach, Americatel has negotiated agreements in over 30 countries to provide VSAT services to facilitate and expedite the deployment of services using VSAT technology. Our presence in the region, combined with our accumulated experience with VSAT technology, results in rapid deployment of large VSAT networks.

The key benefits of using VSAT technology are customer network management, availability, and applications deployment. The customer network management complexity and cost decreases because VSAT allows customers to deploy the same technology and equipment in all locations, reducing training costs and operational delays.

The high availability and flexibility of a VSAT results from having the antenna on customer premises and by performing all the administration and management of the VSAT unit from our control center in Miami, Florida. Bandwidth increases can usually be performed within a day if necessary since there are no terrestrial facilities involved. And finally, having the same technological capabilities everywhere makes possible the deployment of new applications in all locations simultaneously.

VSAT network solutions have an excellent service record in the region and Americatel has positioned itself as one of the leaders in providing VSAT solutions in Latin America and the Caribbean. Americatel can analyze your communications requirements to determine if VSAT technology is a suitable solution for your business. The following VSAT technologies are currently used by Americatel.

Shared hub VSAT

AMERICATEL'S standard shared hub VSAT services employ a star topology with the main hub located at Americatel's teleport facilities in Miami, Florida. The main hub uses the latest satellite communications technology geared to optimize the performance and bandwidth utilization of the network for a variety of applications.

The technology to access the satellite is Time Division Multiple Access (TDMA) and Time Division Multiplexing (TDM) which allocates bandwidth to VSAT remote stations based on the traffic load at a given station. As a result, a station is not limited to a pre-determined bandwidth level, it merely uses bandwidth from a common pool as required. When a station has very little traffic, it releases the bandwidth to the common pool for other stations to use.

The typical antenna size for the shared hub VSAT services is 2.4 meters, capable of transmitting at speeds of 128 Kbps in TDMA mode. The receive capability of the VSAT station is at least 512 Kbps in TDM mode. Bandwidth allocation for a particular station and access methods to the satellite can be adjusted to provide good response time and bandwidth efficiency for a variety of applications. The customer interface to Americatel's VSAT system supports most standard protocols including, but not limited to, X.25, SDLC, Ethernet, and Token Ring.

TDMA VSAT

A PRIVATE TDMA VSAT system provides customers with a full mesh topology and dedicated satellite bandwidth for their networks. The transmission speeds of these systems range from 64 Kbps to 2.048 Mbps. Bandwidth is allocated dynamically to each remote VSAT station depending on the traffic requirements of the particular station and the available bandwidth in the resource pool.

The antenna size varies from 2.4 meters to 4.5 meters depending on the transmission speed. The higher the bandwidth requirements, the larger the antenna size. Americatel will perform a complete design of your private TDMA VSAT system based on your business requirements.

The customer interface into the private TDMA VSAT terminal uses industry standard interfaces and the Frame Relay protocol. Using this protocol for access to the system allows for the provisioning of a variety of customer premises equipment to support the majority of applications currently in use in the data communications arena.

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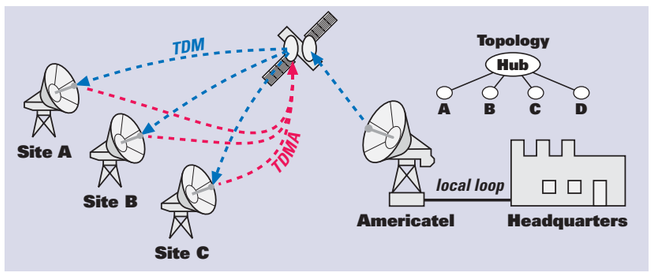
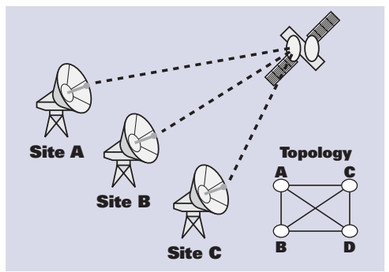


TDMA/TDM



TDMA