

Iridium Short Burst Data® Helps Coordinate Disaster Response in Canada

Partner: NORTAC Defence Limited
(Formerly Known as T24 Defence)

“T24’s Whisper device, powered by the Iridium network, allowed real-time and reliable tracking of our patrols and working groups during flood.

—DND Operative
Involved in Operation LENTUS



2600

military personnel
connected

400+

vehicles, boats, and
aircraft tracked

100+

homes safely evacuated

AT A GLANCE:



THE CHALLENGE

Flooding in Canada’s major cities of Ottawa and Montreal prompted hundreds of evacuations and the mobilization of Canada’s LENTUS natural disaster response program.



THE SOLUTION

Canada’s Department of National Defense used Iridium Connected® T24 Whisper devices to track assets and personnel, as well as allow text communications to organize logistics for disaster response efforts.



THE IMPACT

A fleet of Iridium Connected devices ensured that hundreds of vehicles and thousands of personnel were effectively deployed to evacuate residents and protect key infrastructure.

THE CHALLENGE

In 2017, unusually heavy rains combined with melting snow and rising tides caused widespread flooding in two of Canada's largest cities, Ottawa and Montreal. Hundreds of homes were evacuated and thousands of residents were left homeless due to the destruction.

THE SOLUTION

As part of Canada's natural disaster preparedness program, Operation LENTUS, thousands of troops and hundreds of vehicles were mobilized to assist local authorities. The significant logistical challenges of managing personnel, vehicles, and equipment required a reliable, easy-to-use solution for tracking and communication in unreliable weather conditions.

THE IMPACT

With the ability to quickly deploy and manage troops across locations, the DND was able to monitor 2,600 service members, 400 vehicles, seven helicopters, fifteen small boats, a navy frigate, as well as distribute more than 640,000 sandbags to protect key infrastructure like water treatment facilities, electrical networks, and bridges. Additionally, the troops were able to augment local law enforcement to manage evacuation routes and maintain order for residents.

