



## ACS Dual NOCCs Go Live!

The ACS dual network operations control centers (NOCCs) in Anchorage and in Research Triangle Park near Raleigh, North Carolina, are up and running. The two facilities mirror each other and coordinate actions as if they were in the same location.

Together they form the ACS new Integrated Network Management Center (I-NMC) and work in tandem to continuously manage the network 24/7 every day of the year.

“The I-NMC, with locations in Anchorage and Raleigh, are up and running. We expect to continue to add capabilities and customer facing features over the coming months. This is truly a milestone for ACS,” said Mike Bowman, Vice President, Network Management & Service Delivery.

ACS is the only Alaska-based carrier with an I-NMC, which provides customers with near real-time visibility of their network capacity, performance, utilization and availability. The I-NMC is one more step in the ACS evolution from its local exchange carrier roots into a 21st century integrated telecom solutions provider catering to large commercial, carrier and government clients. said Mike.

## Mix Business with Pleasure

BlackBerry has become synonymous with business, but the old-style BlackBerry phones screamed “I’m working!”. By contrast, the Pearl is a slim, sleek cell phone with a simple design and loaded with the features that make BlackBerry the worlds number one selling brand of smartphone. The layout and positioning of the keys feels right in your hand and fits nicely against your ear for those important phone calls. Included in the phone is a media player for music and video, access to Windows Live Messenger, an internet browser, speakerphone, a 2 megapixel camera, and of course, the Pearl’s trackball, which is the phone’s signature feature.

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## Juniper Upgrade: Project Update

ACS is in the midst of upgrading its core Internet and MPLS networks with Juniper routing hardware.

The Company is positioning itself to handle the large-scale Enterprise growth that will be supported by AKORN, the new ACS undersea fiber optic cable.

The project entails upgrading the ACS major points of presence, namely in Anchorage, Juneau, Fairbanks, Seattle and Portland, by replacing Cisco GSR and 7500 series hardware with Juniper M120 and M10i equipment. This routing hardware is modern, redundant, highly scalable and carrier-class. Dual M120 routers in Anchorage will interface with M120s in Portland and Seattle, providing redundant and diverse routing of MPLS and Internet traffic from Alaska to Lower 48 peering points. Each M120 router can handle multiple 10G interfaces, allowing these networks to leverage the AKORN and Northstar submarine cable capacity and scale to many times the capacity of the current infrastructure.

Among the benefits, the deployment of the Juniper infrastructure will allow ACS to utilize its networks more efficiently; to eliminate potential single points of failure in the Anchorage to Lower 48 network; to provide for Internet and MPLS growth in the coming years; and to deploy statewide Virtual Private LAN (local area network) Service.

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