

SURF LIFE SAVING NSW · COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS

Drone-in-a-Box for Emergency Services

Resilient connectivity beyond terrestrial networks



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01

Business Case

Why DIAB capability is critical for emergency services

Operational drivers and gaps in current systems

Regulatory and industry context



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BUSINESS CASE

Operational Problem Statement

- 01 Frequent loss of terrestrial communications during disasters
- 02 Limited situational awareness in remote and off-grid environments
- 03 High dependency on fixed infrastructure
- 04 Need for rapid deployment and sustained operations



BUSINESS CASE

Why Drone-in-a-Box?

- 01 Persistent aerial intelligence without on-site pilots
- 02 Rapid deployment via a trailerised solution
- 03 Supports long-duration missions
- 04 Enhances safety and operational decision-making



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BUSINESS CASE

What Was Required

- 01 Fully off-grid capable system
- 02 Resilient, redundant communications
- 03 Integrated aviation awareness systems
- 04 Remote control of assets and sensors
- 05 Scalable and interoperable platform



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BUSINESS CASE

Regulatory Considerations (CASA)

01

Redundant communications links

02

Power system redundancy for sustained flight operations

03

Airspace awareness and collision avoidance

04

Compliance with BVLOS and automated operations frameworks



AUSTRALIAN UAV SERVICE
SLSS OPERATIONS MANUAL
L - BEYOND VISUAL LINE OF SIGHT (BVLOS) PROCEDURES

L.26.5 Dock Location Requirements

Prior to BVLOS Operations the Remote Pilot in Command shall ensure that RPA Dock site selection and commissions conforms to OEM instructions and procedure. In addition to manufacturer instructions, the following procedures should be followed:

Equipment	Quantity	Requirements
DJI Dock	1	- The DJI Dock must be located in an area where: - Obstacles within a five-metre radius do not pose a hazard to take-off and landing. - Access is restricted to essential crew only. - The take-off and landing area can be cleared and monitored using a camera system capable of providing vision night. - The take-off and landing site is illuminated for night operations (this may be by onboard lighting). - Must be connected to primary and secondary power sources with automatic failover (Internal battery or UPS can be used in lieu of a secondary power source provided it contains reserve power in excess of 1.5x the flight time to return to home). - Must have access to primary and secondary network communication with a minimum failover time of 5 seconds. - Must have access to live weather information for wind, precipitation and temperature within 5 nautical miles of the dock location (this can be from an on board weather station) - Must be within electronic line of sight of the operations area (viewshed in accordance with these procedures) - Must have an alternate landing site with no obstacles within 1m radius. The site should be 5-50m from the dock, at the same height.

Internal battery or UPS may be used in lieu of a secondary power source, provided it contains reserve power in excess of 1.5x the flight time to return to home).



BUSINESS CASE

Industry First Capability

- 01 First emergency service dual Drone-in-a-Box trailer solution
- 02 Designed for statewide deployment across NSW
- 03 Combines aviation, comms and IoT in one platform
- 04 Built in collaboration with industry partner Hypha



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BUSINESS CASE

Business Value & Outcomes

- 01 Increased operational resilience
- 02 Improved response times in disasters
- 03 Enhanced situational awareness
- 04 Reduced reliance on damaged infrastructure
- 05 Future-ready scalable architecture



02

Technical Integration

End-to-end architecture and system integration

Focus on communications resilience and control systems

TECHNICAL INTEGRATION

System Architecture Overview

01

Deployable Trailer-Based Platform

Fully self-contained, rapid deployment for incident and event environments

02

Integrated DIAB Ecosystem

Communications, power and compute integrated in a single platform

03

Edge Compute with Centralised Control

Local processing for resilience, with remote monitoring and command

04

Interoperable by Design

Built to integrate with ESO systems and partner agency platforms



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Connectivity Architecture

01

Resilient LEO Satellite Backbone

Dual bonded Starlink terminals for redundant, high-availability connectivity

02

Hybrid Terrestrial Integration

5G links enhance performance and hold coverage where available, on LEO failure

03

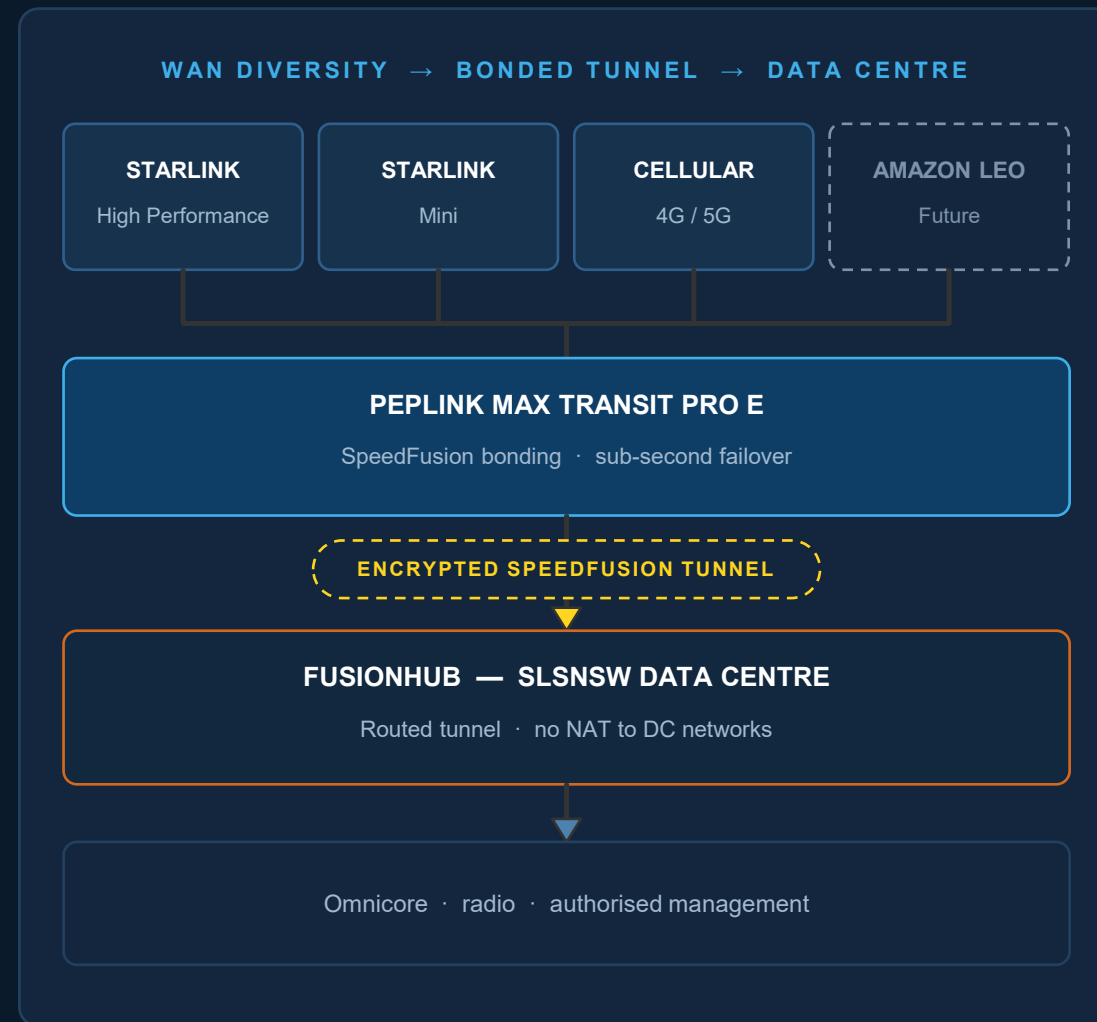
Seamless Link Failover

Automatic switching between satellite and cellular keeps operations uninterrupted

04

Future-Ready Expansion

Designed for integration with emerging LEO networks (e.g. Amazon LEO)



Omnitronics Integration

01

Omnichore as Central Control Layer

Primary interface for system control and operational management

02

Integrated Radio Communications (Airband)

Control and monitoring of aviation and radio channels

03

Platform-Based I/O Control

Hardware and system I/O managed through the Omnitronics ecosystem

04

Unified Operator Interface

Single pane of glass for comms, control and asset visibility

OMNICORE OPERATOR INTERFACE



Airband channel control across UAV Sled, Trailer 1 and Trailer 2 — a single pane of glass for voice, control and asset visibility.

I/O & Remote Asset Control

01

Centralised Control via Omnicore

Floodlighting and field systems managed from a single interface

02

Integrated IoT Device Ecosystem

Sensors and smart field devices connect seamlessly

03

Remote Operation & Monitoring

Real-time control, status visibility and alerting from anywhere

04

Scalable Field Integration

Easily expandable to support additional assets and devices

REMOTE I/O — TRAILER FLOOD LIGHTING

Trailer Flood Light Status

Trailer 1

DISABLED

48VDC: **55.8 V**

12VDC: **13.5 V**

Updated 11:01:30 AM

Trailer 2

DISABLED

48VDC: **55.9 V**

12VDC: **13.3 V**

Updated 11:01:30 AM

Refreshes automatically every 5 seconds

Flood-light state and 48 V / 12 V rail voltages per trailer, refreshed every 5 s.

TECHNICAL INTEGRATION

Aviation Awareness Systems

01

Integrated Airband Communications

Direct monitoring and control of aviation radio channels

02

Real-Time Aircraft Tracking (ADS-B)

Live visibility of aircraft movements in the operational area

03

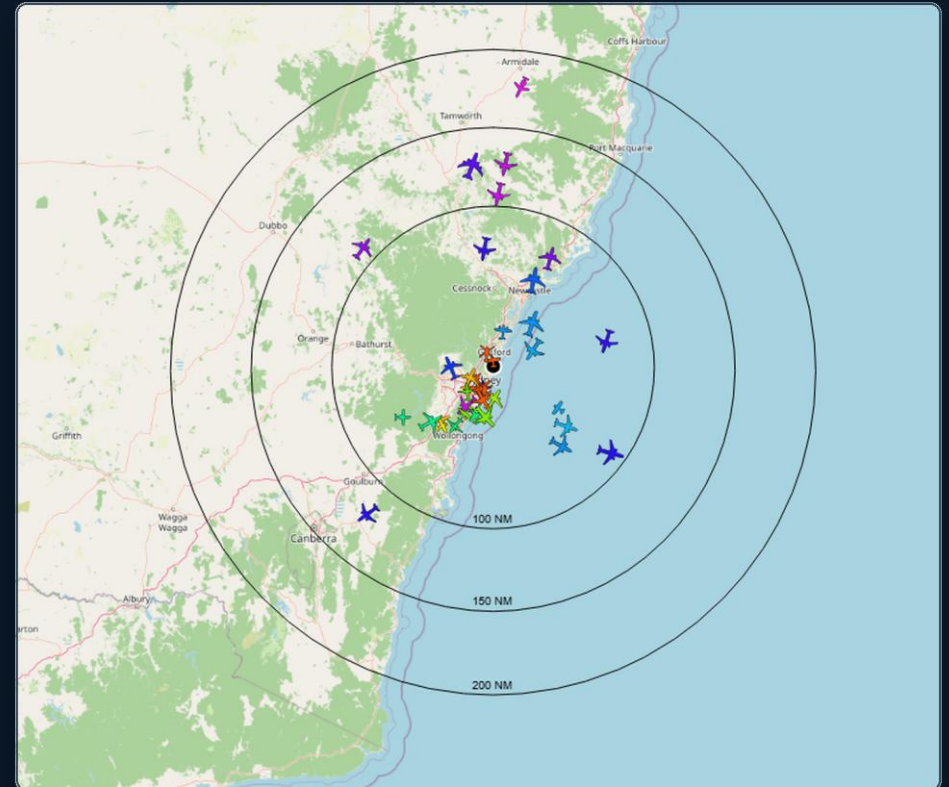
Enhanced Situational Awareness

Better decisions through integrated airspace intelligence

04

Supports Safe Drone Operations

Enables deconfliction and safe UAV operations in shared airspace



Live ADS-B picture — aircraft movements within the operational area.



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TECHNICAL INTEGRATION

Power & Autonomy

- 01 Off-Grid Power Capability**
Fully self-sufficient, no external power source required
- 02 Redundant Power Architecture**
Multiple power sources ensuring continuous operation
- 03 Sustained Deployment Endurance**
Designed to support extended operations in the field
- 04 Optimised for Remote Environments**
Reliable performance in isolated, low-infrastructure locations



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TECHNICAL INTEGRATION

Real-World Deployment Considerations

01

Rapid Deployment & Mobility

Efficient transport and fast setup in dynamic environments

02

Environmental Resilience

Built to operate in harsh conditions — heat, weather, coastal exposure

03

Variable Network Conditions

Performance adapts to fluctuating connectivity environments

04

Operational Readiness

Requires clear procedures, training and integration into workflows



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Future Roadmap

01

Next-Gen LEO Integration

Additional satellite networks (e.g. Amazon LEO) as they mature

02

Expanded IoT Ecosystem

A broader range of connected field devices and sensors

03

Automation & AI-Enabled Operations

Intelligent systems to enhance decision-making and efficiency

04

Cross-Agency Adoption

Scaling across emergency services and partner organisations

05

New Dock Solutions

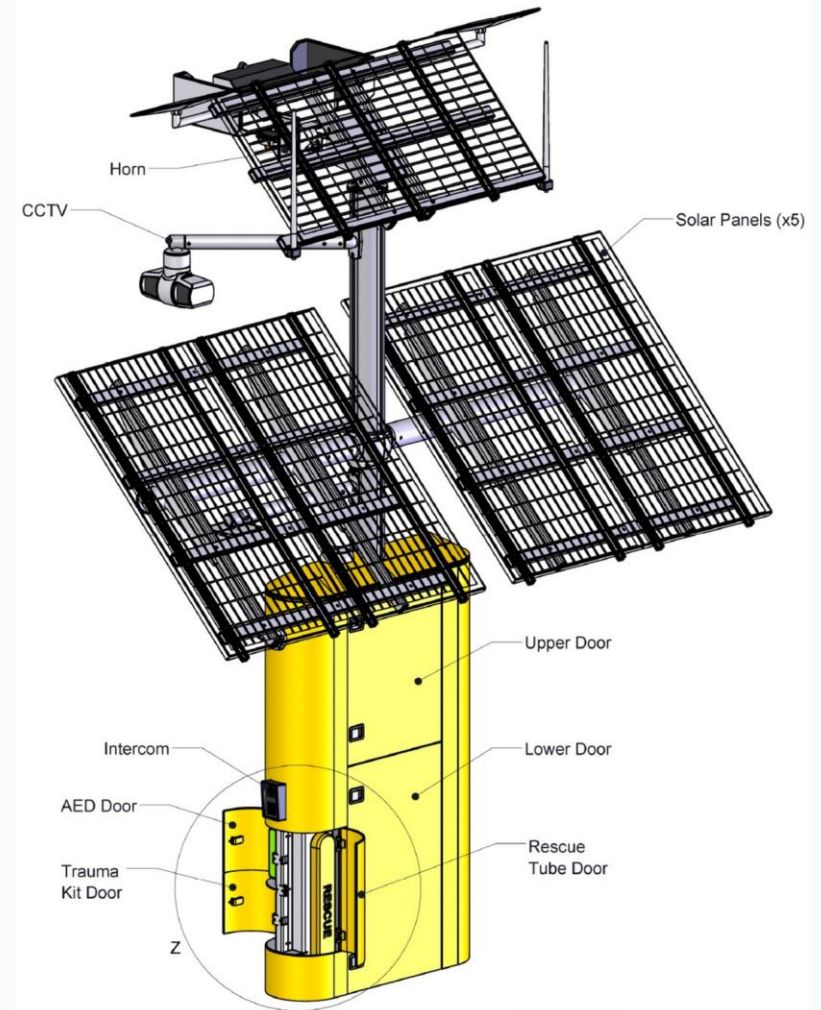
Docks from other companies, and new DJI designs and versions

06

Similar Systems

Other solutions using similar designs (e.g. SLS NSW Smart Poles)

SIMILAR SYSTEM — 6 m SOLAR UAV ERB



AIS / SLS NSW · UAV ERB rev D · isometric, not to scale

Fixed 6 m solar pole carrying the same dock, LEO and routing stack as the trailer.



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Thank you.

Resilient connectivity beyond terrestrial networks.



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