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Resilience Technology Can Be Cool

Higher Ground's award-winning SatPaq technology to be featured at the new Resilience Pavilion [Booth 1211] inside CES 2019

The SatPaq clips to any smartphone, allows anyone or anything to stay in touch through emergencies, disasters or when cell is not available.



Palo Alto, CA — Resilience is what we need as disasters become more common. Now all-too-frequently we see videos of enormous fires; we see images of vast destruction from hurricanes; and we often know people who have lost their homes and their possessions. It *really can* happen to you.

First responders are linking their networks together to be more resilient. This is a big step forward in communications technology. But first responders arrive after the **First Affected** are forced to live through the crisis and receive assistance only if there is a way to call out for help. Too often the cell network is down or non-existent. People will die because there they can't get help quickly enough.

The new Resilience Pavilion at CES 2019 is this year's call-out to better crisis technology. And the revolutionary SatPaq product [Booth 1211] shows how to make resilience inexpensive, safe and cool.

Higher Ground, a Silicon Valley technology company, introduces at CES the **SatPaq®**, a lightweight, clip-on, smartphone accessory that enables inexpensive (pay-as-you-go) messaging by satellite. For the 144 million outdoor enthusiasts in the U.S., the SatPaq directly solves two problems -- the anxiety of not 'being connected' and the frustration of having to pay monthly fees even if you do not use the service.

Imagine our new, national resilience if every person could send/receive texts from anywhere; get location-based weather; A/I driven-wilderness first-aid guidance; 24/7 SOS response; all via your smartphone. We call this **Peace of Mind for \$249**.

This is one of the reasons that the SatPaq was recently named a **2019 CES Innovation Award Honoree in the Wireless Devices, Accessories and Services Category**. In addition, the SatPaq was selected as a winner of the **Dealerscope 2019 IMPACT Award**.

The SatPaq is the first satellite-messaging product to communicate directly to Geostationary [GEO] satellites for consumer communication. Other products use Low Earth Orbit [LEO] satellites, which have a number of disadvantages such as:

- There can often be a 2 to 10 minute delay before a LEO satellite is in the right part of the sky and ready to accept a message. GEO satellites are in a stationary orbit around the Earth and are always in view.
- Messaging over LEOs is **SIGNIFICANTLY** more expensive than using our GEO satellites thus requiring an annoying monthly fee. By communicating with the big GEOs, the SatPaq can provide inexpensive, on-demand messaging service that you only pay for when you need it.

It is not just natural disasters that demand this new resilience. Every year in the U.S, approximately the **same number of people [10,000] die from our outdoor recreation activities as the number of people killed every year in all passenger-car auto accidents!** No one is going to give up our outdoor recreation that we enjoy so much - we simply need to make our outdoors safer.

The SatPaq has been extensively tested by National Park rangers, county search and rescue, Homeland Security agents, US Army Special Operations Forces and power hikers since December 2017. This same technology can now be used by consumers when hiking, fishing, camping, off-shore boating or during natural disasters and when no other means of communication is available.

Many lives will be saved.

George Durkee, author, instructor and a consultant to many National Park Service search and rescue [SAR] teams, says, "SAR teams like Yosemite Search and Rescue (YOSAR) are called in to run some two hundred SAR events every year; many of these lead to injuries and deaths. For the entire country, there are about 100,000 search and rescues every year."

"There can be two extremely frustrating situations for SAR responders: not knowing where an overdue hiker is located and/or not knowing the type of injury. An inexpensive-to-use communicator like the SatPaq can solve both of these problems. Merely checking in once or twice per day with its real-time location report will help us to significantly narrow a search area and send the most effective and safest response."

The SatPaq is available now for \$249.

For more information, please visit www.satpaq.com.

