
Chapter 7 – SOLDIER NETWORK

In the near future, even the individual dismounted soldier will be connected to the military information grid through a communications network. Although the current requirement for the soldier primarily is for broadcast voice communications, in the future this may be very much shifted to include non real-time data communications as the primary requirement, with telephony and video as secondary requirements. The soldier rarely operates alone, but usually in a group. The group has a requirement for internal communications as well as a communication link to the network. Solutions for communication within the group are not well established and pose challenges with regard to equipment size, weight, power consumption and antenna solutions.

As the soldiers often operate in hostile environments, they must rely on systems based on ad-hoc network architectures. In order to extend the radio range and achieve a higher availability of communications the system should offer automatic routing and relaying of information.

