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On the Cutting Edge

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Telecom Recovery

Innovation: 9-1-1 in the Sky

When a business' phone communications goes down due to an outage or disaster, the downtime can be costly not only from a monetary standpoint, but can be detrimental to the company's operations or even result in the loss of lives. Telecom Recovery's 9-1-1 in the Sky aims to prevent unnecessary costs and damages by enabling any existing phone system to switch over to a satellite connection, restoring normal functionality and turning every connected station into a satellite phone.

Tim Ruff, CEO of Telecom Recovery, says, "To protect a 9-1-1 dispatch center, 9-1-1 in the Sky intercepts 9-1-1 calls from the carrier and delivers them via satellite into the center's existing equipment, where dispatchers can assist callers in the same manner they normally would." Ruff says some complicated and expensive solutions have been available in the past, but this cloud-based intelligence works on the fly, making it easy to adapt to changing circumstances (particularly necessary during a disaster), and allowing for high-quality communication as usual.

Telecom Recovery currently serves customers in more than 40 states, servicing organizations of all sizes and from more than 35 industries.

Kairos Autonomi, Inc.

Innovation: Pronto4 Robotics Appliqué Kit Kairos Autonomi is in final negotiation stages of a \$40 million contract with the Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) that would make Kairos Autonomi the No. 1 U.S. manufacturer of full-size unmanned ground vehicle systems. What makes the Pronto4 Robotics Appliqué Kit stand out against competitors is its unique ability to be installed on any ground vehicle (with a steering wheel or skid steer control) and its standardized hardware interface for operating human controls inside a vehicle, as well as its platform for integrating third party technology enhancers (hardware sensors, data links and software). It is also more economical, adding up to 20 percent of the cost of developing a robotic system from the ground up.

"Because of its affordability, capability and universality, the Pronto4 Robotic Appliqué Kit is a unique and innovative concept that is altering the thinking of what a robotic system should be," says Jean Takach, vice president of Kairos Autonomi, Inc. Takach says the robotics market is in its infancy so market growth will be extensive, especially as it moves into commercial applications.

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Xandem Technology

Innovation: Sentinel

Video cameras and passive infrared detectors have been used since the 1960s for security purposes. Xandem Technology offers an updated solution with the Sentinel. The Sentinel uses wireless network sensing to detect movement, allowing the sensor to be concealed behind walls, doors or furniture while making an accurate reading of quick and slow motions. The system can also account for the number of people present in a 1,000-square-foot area.

"We surround areas with small, inexpensive and low-power wireless transceivers where each device communicates with the others forming a dense web of radio waves that blanket the area and form a powerful high tech framework," says Joey Wilson, Xandem founder and president.

Sentinel is finding a place not only in security, but also in elderly and child care, even preventing teenagers from throwing a party when mom and dad are out of town.