

### **Vanco enables most northerly video message ever**

Vanco, the pioneering Virtual Network Operator, yesterday delivered the most northerly as-live transmitted video message ever. British explorer and environmentalist Pen Hadow, accompanied by colleagues Ann Daniels and Martin Hartley, ventured for two hours north of the Arctic's Eureka Weather Station to a point 80.0 degrees North to make the historic video transmission.

The video footage was transmitted from the Arctic Ocean at 1903 GMT, using the Vanco Arctic Survey's pioneering satellite communications system. Due to the severe limitations imposed by a lack of satellite coverage over the High Arctic regions, it took 18 minutes before this short video transmission was received by the UK-based Operations team.

Vanco developed and integrated the technology involved, ensuring the entire communications set up operated smoothly. Six analogue phone lines were installed and tested for data transmission before their direct dial numbers were logged onto the Central Data Processor (on the Vanco Arctic Survey sledge) to enable 6-way automatic dial-up and data transmission. A router (in the UK HQ) combines the six separate data sets into one file, these are then re-assembled and viewed via a laptop. Large file transmission is not a problem - the system has been designed to redial if there is a temporary Iridium satellite gap/drop-out during transmission.

Allen Timpany, Vanco's CEO, said, "We are proud to have achieved this record. Combining multiple technologies from a range of innovative companies is exactly what Vanco does day-to-day for its enterprise clients, so this was an exciting chance to push the boundaries of the technology at our disposal. The success of this initial transmission during the Ice Trials, which precede Pen and the team's main journey next year, bodes well for our plans to conduct a video conference at the North Pole itself. As the world's most global telecommunications company, it will be great to tick another location, in which we have successfully delivered communications services, off our list."

Note: UK press request that video and images are not attached to emails. We will therefore not attach the video footage to the email and instead direct the media partners to an ftp address where the footage is located.

#### Notes:

Established in 1988, Vanco plc (FTSE: VAN) is the pioneering and leading global Virtual Network Operator. Vanco does not own telecoms assets and therefore has the freedom to source infrastructure from the most suitable Asset Based Carriers (ABCs) on a global basis. It provides enterprise clients, directly or through partners, with cost-effective, optimized and fully managed network solutions. Carriers can also extend their off-net reach by accessing, through Vanco, other carrier networks around the world.

With solutions available in 230 countries and territories, Vanco is selected by the world's largest organisations to provide strategic network solutions. Its clients include Avis Europe, British Airways, Ford Motor Company, Siemens, Pilkington and Virgin Retail.

Through the Vanco network solution clients get access to the greatest geographic coverage available through a single provider. Vanco offers incomparable flexibility to customize and adapt the solution in line with market changes and business priorities.

Vanco defines 'video message' as a combination of audio and visual information that provides a clear communication suitable for online broadcast.

Vanco defines 'as-live transmission' as sent in the form of data immediately after recording, in this case via combined Iridium phones, satellite, and fixed data networks.