

Five Reasons for Bringing Satellite Communications Equipment With You on Your Next Duke of Edinburgh or Off-Grid Field Trip

Students and young people up and down the country take on activities for Duke of Edinburgh awards year after year for many different reasons: personal development, social connections, recognition, and in particular, the thrill of adventure and exploration.

Many of our customers chase their next adventure with pieces of our equipment in their pockets or strapped to their packs. Over the last 15 years of operation, GTC has helped people navigate some of the world's most remote locations including Antarctica, the Atlantic Ocean, Australia's Outback, and vast swathes of inner Kazakhstan.

But for what reason do so many groups and individuals feel the need to bring our technology along? Doesn't it add weight and take up space in their pack? Based on the needs of some of our past customers, read on for the top five reasons why people need our equipment when they go off-grid.



1: Regular Check-Ins

By scheduling a quick check-in call at the end of a day's hike, satellite phone users can ensure their emergency contacts that they are okay and where they should be. The same can be done with the push of a button from the Garmin inReach Mini.

2: Real-time Location Sharing

Our satellite trackers such as the Garmin inReach Mini 2 or SPOT Gen4 will regularly map the device carrier's location to GTC's bespoke, open access online mapping portal that can be viewed by anyone, anytime. Users can even send their GPS coordinates to emergency contacts should something unexpected happen.



No signal? No problem. Our devices do not rely on mobile phone coverage in order to operate properly.

Our partnership with Global Telesat Communications was invaluable for the row. Their support and equipment allowed us to conduct essential communication with our shore team and send out photos and videos to tell the story of our Atlantic Row.

**Rosalind Chaston, Atlantic Escapade
GTC Customer & Iridium GO! exec user**



3: Emergency Response

Many of our devices come with integrated, some even interactive, SOS capabilities at the push of a button. This psychological safety net is what gives our customers the ability to power through challenging environments knowing that a rescue operation is available should they run into difficulty.

4: Peace of Mind for All

The safety of the customers we help is our top priority, and knowing that you can reach your friend or loved one no matter where in the world they are is the ultimate reassurance, and the same goes for the device carrier. Our globally-connected equipment means that reliable contact is always a possibility.



5: Web Usage and Data Transfer

With upload/download speeds of up to 22/88 Kbps, devices such as the Iridium GO! exec Satellite WiFi Hotspot allow users to send email via Outlook and Gmail, chat over WhatsApp, or post to social media from any location thanks to its truly global connectivity.

Garmin inReach® Mini 2

Lightweight, rugged satellite GPS communicator



Key Features:

- Global Two-Way Messaging
- Interactive SOS Alerts
- Location Sharing
- Digital Compass
- inReach® Weather Reports

Dimensions: 5.17 x 9.90 x 2.61cm

Weight: 100g

SPOT Gen4

Compact, portable satellite tracker

Key Features:

- SOS by satellite
- Track progress in real-time
- Various tracking frequencies
- Pre-defined messages
- Check-in "I'm OKAY" quick message

Dimensions: 8.83 x 6.76 x 2.36cm

Weight: 142g



Iridium GO! exec® Satellite WiFi Hotspot

Portable wireless access device for laptops and smartphones

Key Features:

- Portable with colour touchscreen
- Secure WiFi connectivity
- Dual USB-C, ethernet, & external antenna/GPS ports
- Operate from fixed or mobile location with omni-directional connectivity

Dimensions: 20.3 x 20.3 x 2.5cm

Weight: 1200g



Iridium Extreme®

Dust, shock, and waterproof global satellite phone

Key Features:

- Global voice and data
- Integrated SOS emergency button
- GPS positioning
- Online tracking available
- Diamond treaded tapered grip

Dimensions: 14 x 6 x 2.7cm

Weight: 247g

