

Lars THRANE & Peter THRANE are alive and well and living in Denmark!

I am happy to announce Mackay has signed a global distribution agreement with Lars Thrane A/S (www.Thrane.eu) for their complete portfolio of navigation and communications products.

Of particular interest is their **LT-3100 Iridium Satellite Communications System**. <https://thrane.eu/lt-3100-iridium/>

On the surface, the LT-3100 is an Iridium fixed phone with capabilities similar to the venerable, but discontinued, Sailor SC4000, that uses the same SIMs and basic Pre-Paid and Post-Paid service plans as the Iridium handhelds. However, if you look under the hood there's much more.



The LT-3100 is designed so its LT-3110 below deck control unit (BDU) and its proprietary LT-3130 above deck (antenna) unit (ADU) are modular and open to independent development where the BDU can be used with different antennae to support different service platforms.

The LT-3100 offers unique design features that bring old technology into the modern era:

- **Supports Voice, SMS, and Data (Email) services**
- **No practical limit on antenna cable length** (single coax with "N" type connectors up to 500 m).
The LT-3100 has the RF modem built in to the LT-3130 antenna so the typical length limiting 3db maximum end-to-end attenuation loss in the coax antenna cable is not a factor.
- **Uses standard LAN cable connection for services, terminal management, and optional Wi-Fi access**
Replaces the need for problematic driver-driven USB or RS232 serial connections using a command line interface.
- **High-performance GNSS/GPS receiver built in**
- **Utilizes Passive antenna**
With the RF modem built-in, performance of the passive (unpowered) LT-3130 antenna is comparable to an active antenna.
- **Software driven development platform**
Feature enhancements can be developed and enabled with firmware and software updates.

Applications

- **As a voice solution that provides inbound as well as outbound calling capability**
Typically handheld phones can only be called when they are left powered on with the antenna extended in a location providing a clear 360 view of the sky. The LT3130 antenna can be mounted near the top of a vessel's mast or other structure without concerns about the length of the antenna cable and left on to accept inbound calls 24x7.
- **As a replacement/upgrade for the venerable but obsolete SC4000** (SC4120 Base Unit, SC4150 Handset)
There are still many of these obsolete, hard-to-install, Iridium fixed phones in service and this offers a great modern upgrade or replacement solution.
- **As an alternative to having to purchase and separately install an Iridium phone and a docking station**
- **As a phone that can be used in polar regions**
Because the LT-3100 uses the Iridium polar orbiting constellation of low-earth-orbit satellites, the LT3100 provides true global coverage with low-latency voice
- **As a backup for other satellite services**
If VSAT VoIP is the primary means of voice communication and there is an outage due to blockage, outage, travel outside coverage, or antenna failure, this is an alternate communications solution
- **As an emergency phone for use in an anti-piracy citadel.**
Typically, the ideal installation of a citadel phone and its antenna is hampered by the antenna cable length restrictions. Because of its design, the single coax antenna cable of the LT3100 does not have this restriction.

