Remote Fire Alarm Monitoring

REMOTE FIRE ALARM MONITORING

Effective monitoring of any fire system is important as it provides benefits both in terms of emergency response, system service and maintenance. For remote or isolated sites monitoring is not only important, it is absolutely critical.

There are however, significant challenges associated with the monitoring of remote sites, namely:

- The lack of suitable communication infrastructure
- The sheer number of sites to be monitored
- The complexity of implementation
- The cost of implementation

The use of graphical software to centrally monitor fire systems for large enterprises on a per-site basis has already proven to be effective as it provides:

- Faster response to fire related incidents
- Efficiencies in maintenance operations
- Simplification of system control
- Improved data management and audit trail

As a result, the use of graphical software has naturally been extended to remotely monitor fire systems throughout a city, across the country, or around the world. This not only means emergency events can be managed more effectively, but it can also deliver cost savings in service, maintenance and record keeping for the end-user by:

- Treating multiple remote sites like they are a networked local site
- Monitoring and record keeping - Audit of maintenance supplier activity
- Central control (and monitoring) of service and maintenance contractors
- Remote monitoring of sites in isolated locations eg. wind farms

GSNet Graphical Software

The Technoswitch GSNet Graphical Software offers a robust, flexible platform that can be used to not only monitor local sites at a central point, but also has the flexibility to be extended to monitor an unlimited amount of remote sites via IP or GPRS.

Features

- User-friendly graphics interface
- Custom maps and information
- Control of site equipment (interface and equipment dependant)
- Event logs and printable reports
- Operator actions monitored and controlled
- Client connections to distribute information to multiple monitoring stations

Furthermore, providers of service and maintenance can install interfaces on the sites they manage that enable them to monitor each site directly from their offices. This enables them to provide enhanced levels of service to their customers whilst providing important information that can be used to reduce the costs of travel to and time on customer site, thereby providing:

- Proactive response to system faults
- Reduced travel to diagnose system faults
- Centralisation of workflow - less time required on site
- Robust data management for record keeping and audit trail
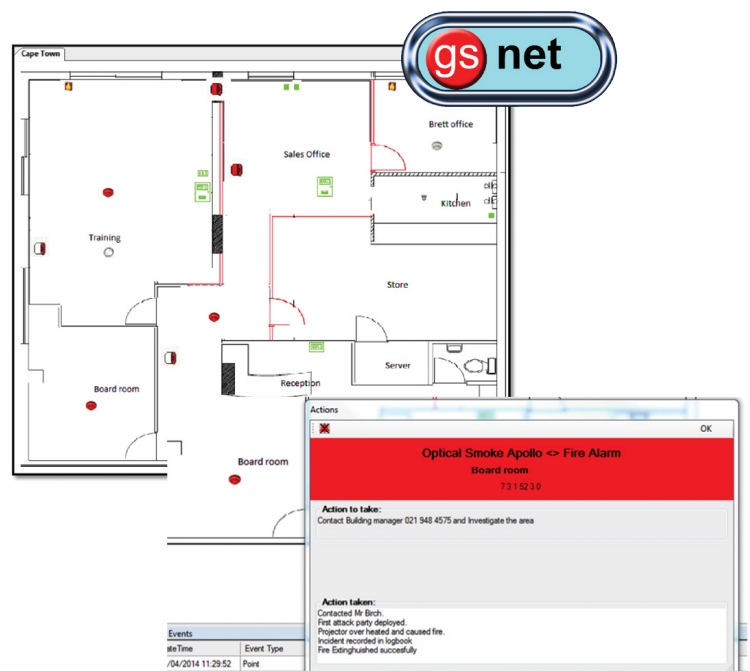
Technoswitch Intelligent Panel IP Connection & GSNet Software

The IP connection between the site and monitoring software allows an active communication signal that is monitored by the graphics software.

Site events will be sent to the software and control signals will be sent to the control panels on site. This system gives you pin-point accuracy of events and allows the user to actively interact with the site from a remote location.

Additional maintenance alarms such as Mains Fail, Battery Faults, Loop Voltages and Current Consumption can be monitored.

A sound and stable internet connection is required between the site and remote monitoring station.

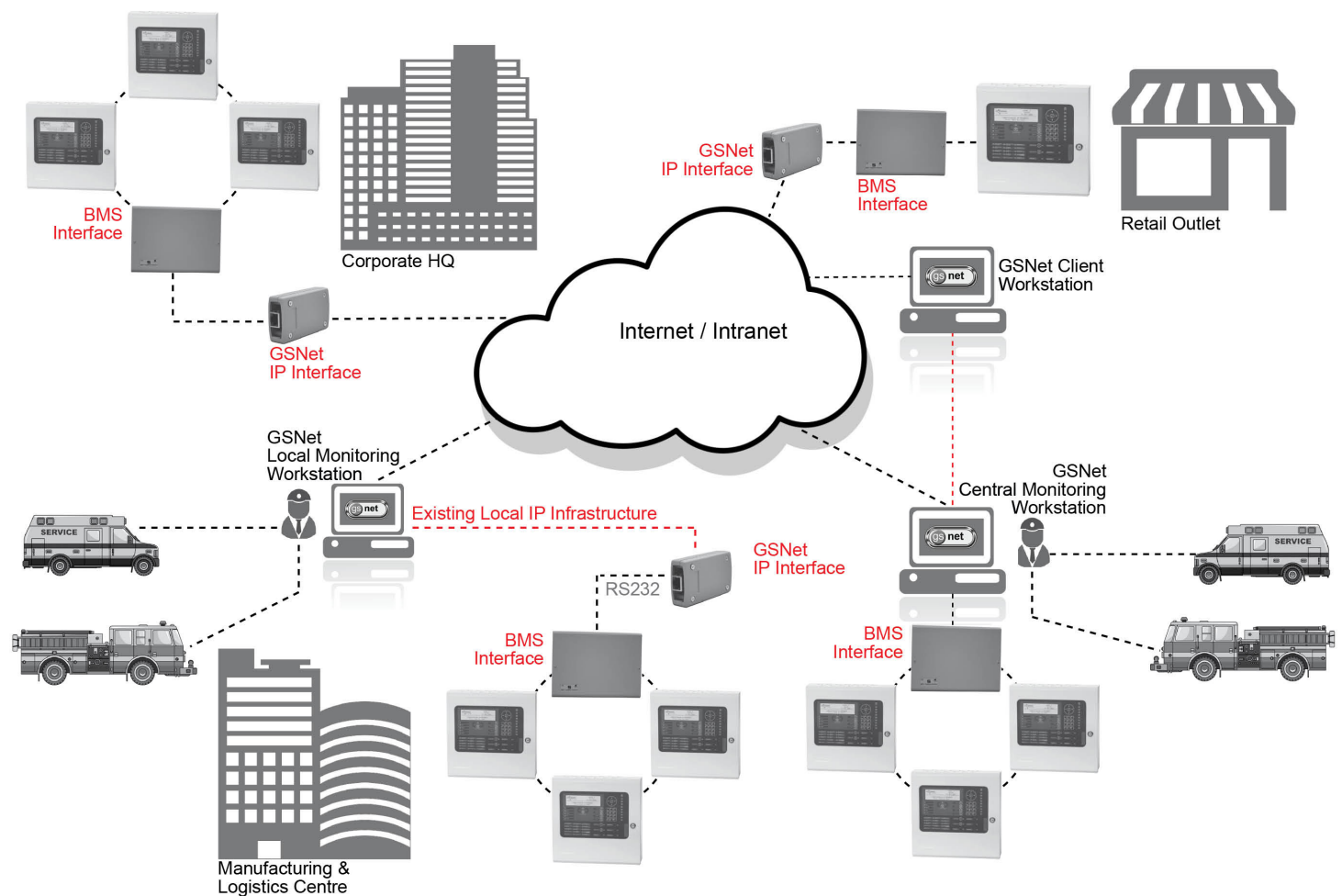For more information refer to the Sales and Technical Guide.

Figure 1

Technoswitch Intelligent Panel IP Connection via IP Gateway

The ipGateway connects to an existing Ad-Net fire network, providing a gateway to the local fire network from any remote location via the internet.

By gathering real time information from the fire network it gives a visual indication of the state of the fire network through a standard web browser.

The state of each device on the network is displayed in a clear and concise manner.

Interaction with the fire network is also available, providing the functionality to enable/disable zones, enable/disable devices, reset the network, mute the network, silence or resound sounders on the network.

The ipGateway can also be configured to react to events on the network by sending emails to configured recipients.

Key Features

- Remote access to Ad-Net fire using a standard web browser
- Password protected
- Multiple user permissions
- Event notification via email
- Configurable over the internet
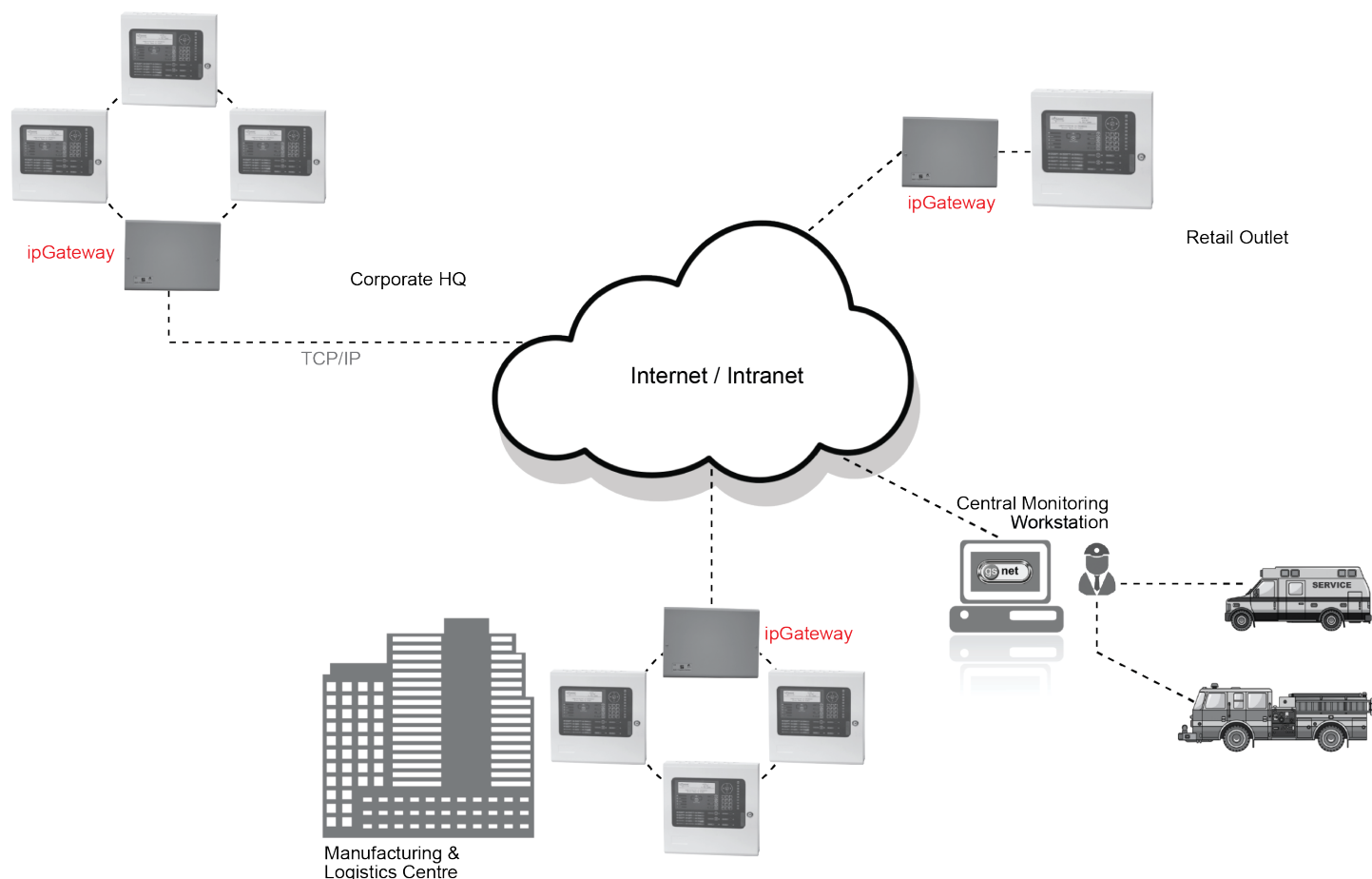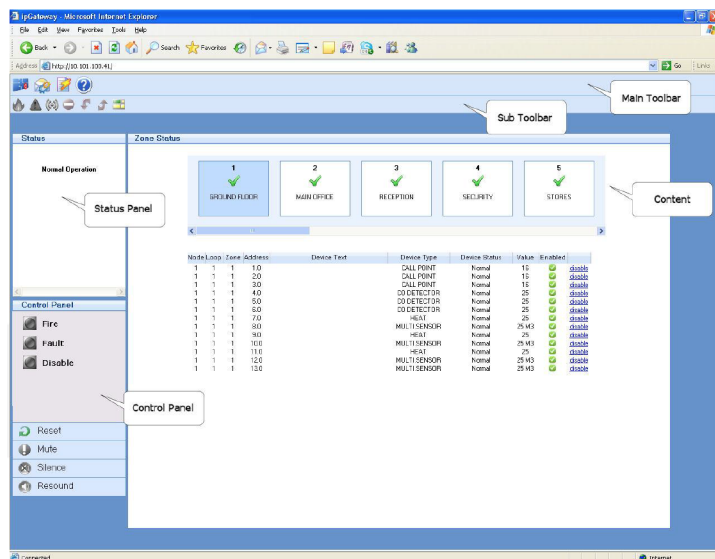- No proprietary software required

Figure 2

Remote Fire Alarm Monitoring

All Panel Types GPRS Connection & GSNet Software

The GPRS connection between the site and monitoring software allows for a passive communication signal that is unmonitored by the graphics package.

Site events will be sent to the software but no control is available from the software.

The on-site equipment connects to a transmitter by means of hard-wired inputs, thus this option is not dependant on panel makes or types. Up to 9 relay contacts can be monitored from the site. Redundancy in communications is obtained with dual SIM cards in the base station and GTX.

- South African customers are provided with two SIM cards embedded in the units.
- Exports clients have to add their local service provider SIM cards in the units.

Each unit connected to the APN/GPRS network requires a licence fee that is payable monthly or annually. The licence fee includes management of the APN network and all data being transferred from sites to monitoring software for the South African market. Exports clients will pay a reduced licence fee, but will have to load airtime to their SIM cards.

Client stations can be added to the system by either adding GSNet client package or if no network connection is available, a secondary base station can be used as a GTX pack can link to

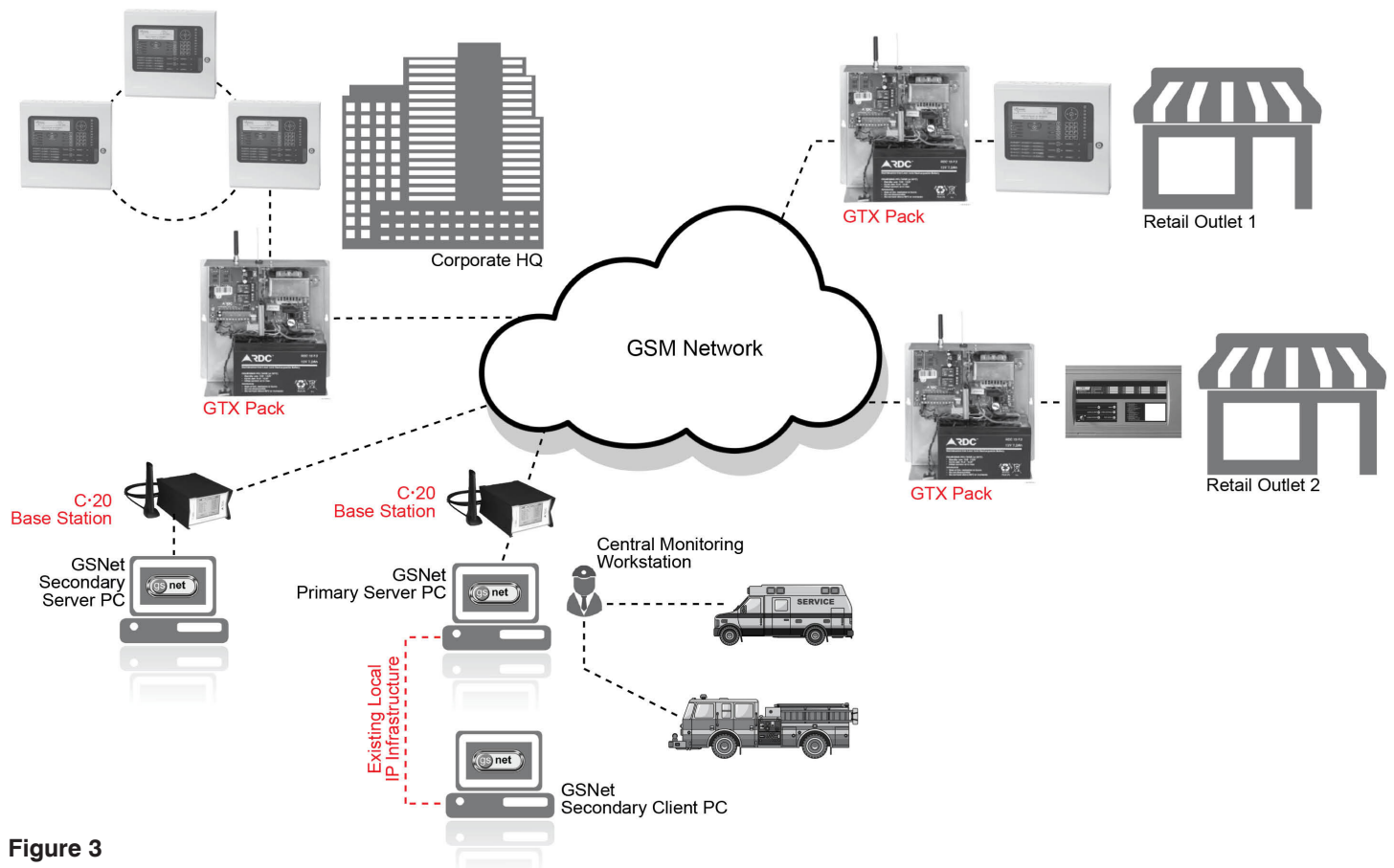For more information refer to the Sales and Technical Guide.

Figure 3

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