

VITAL METRICS CORPORATION

December 16, 1998

Federal Communications Commission
Experimental Licensing Branch
Suite 230; MS 1300E1
2000 M Street
Washington, DC 20554

Ref.: File No. 5936-EX-PL-97; Call Sign WA2XPV

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

This annual Progress Report is submitted by Vital Metrics Corporation (i.e. the licensee) in accord with special condition (2) of the referenced *Experimental Radio Station Construction Permit and License*.

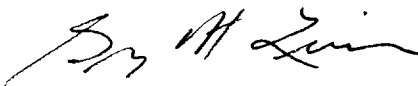
PURPOSE: The intended purpose for the licensed transmitter stations is in a vessel traffic management system located along the U.S. portion of the Saint Lawrence Seaway.

BACKGROUND: The vessel traffic management system will be a joint effort among the U.S. Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation, the Canadian Saint Lawrence Seaway Authority, and the two national Coast Guard services. Similar licenses have been gained for the Canadian portion of the waterway. Funds to accomplish the project are to be provided by the U.S. and Canadian governments.

PROGRESS: Technical developments necessary for the two-way data traffic between vessels and shore stations were developed and are being used in the Panama Canal. Carry-on units, similar to those that will be used by vessel pilots along the Saint Lawrence Seaway, also have been tested in the Panama Canal. The nature and volume of vessel traffic and the length and breadth of the water areas in the Saint Lawrence Seaway system, however, are significantly different from the Panama Canal and operational methods needed for vessel traffic management must be developed separately.

STATUS: None of the nine (9) licensed transmitters are now in operation nor have any been in operation since the license was granted. Funds to begin the project were not available to the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation in FY-1998. If funds can be provided by both government agencies in FY-1999 the project will be started and operate for about two years.

Sincerely,



George H. Quinn
President