

Navigating RF Challenges: Mediaco's Innovation Journey with the EME Guard XS

Carling State

MEDi//CO

This RF safety tool is extremely easy to use and creates a safer working environment in the areas of installation and maintenance."

Mr. Le Moal Technical Sales Manager for Aerial Platforms in Brittany at Mediaco







"

Tower techs need devices to detect RF waves. It's more than a need they can't work safely without an RF detector." Mr. Le Moal

INTRODUCTION

In the rapidly evolving telecommunications sector, the infrastructure that enables global connectivity is both vast and complex. Technical personnel, who play a pivotal role in installing, maintaining, and repairing antenna systems, navigate a landscape where precision and safety are paramount. Mediaco, a leader in the European lifting and material handling industry, boasts an extensive network across France with 90 local agencies and a dedicated team of 2,300.

In telecommunications maintenance, Mediaco collaborates closely with telecommunications giants to ensure the robustness of this essential infrastructure. Mediaco equips its technicians with RF safety personal protection monitors as a crucial safety measure against EMF exposure, especially when there's uncertainty about whether power to the antennas has been deactivated before maintenance. This ensures the protection of both personnel and equipment.

Technicians working near telecom Base Transceiver Stations (BTS) antennas essential for facilitating communication between the network and mobile devices encounter unique challenges. Positioned in close proximity to powerful sources of RF radiation emitted by these antennas, they are exposed to invisible yet significant hazards. This proximity necessitates stringent safety measures to mitigate the risk of RF radiation, a byproduct of our increasingly connected world that can have adverse effects on both human health and equipment functionality.

THE INVISIBLE HAZARD: ADDRESSING RF RADIATION IN TELECOM WORK

Technicians working near BTS antennas face the risk of RF emission, a concern

exacerbated by the growing sensitivity of their machinery to electromagnetic fields. Aerial work platforms, such as the Nacelle, are particularly vulnerable to RF-induced disruptions, which can cause unpredictable behavior in machinery—posing a potential risk to technicians working at heights. Mr. Sébastien Le Moal, a former telecom technician who serves as a Technical Sales Manager for Aerial Platforms in Brittany at Mediaco, shares that the crew experienced unexpected machine behavior due to RF disturbances. The aerial work platform, essential for reaching high points on the structure, reacted unpredictably when exposed to electromagnetic fields. This situation, while under control and

ninery to as ed percent of to to

without any risk to the technicians thanks to safety harnesses, underscored the potential for RF interference to profoundly affect equipment operation. Such experiences highlight the critical need for precise detection and management of RF radiation levels to ensure both technician safety and operational efficiency in Mediaco's maintenance tasks.

Despite thorough planning and site assessments to deactivate communication systems beforehand, the possibility of remote system reactivations introduces an element of unpredictability into their operations. Mr. Le Moal underscores the vital role of RF detectors in this context, stating, "The importance of the detector cannot be overstated," as it is crucial for ensuring that operations proceed only when safety is assured. Mediaco's commitment to comprehensive safety protocols, including pre-operational tests and cautious operator approaches with RF detectors, demonstrates their dedication to safeguarding personnel and equipment in the complex environment of telecommunications maintenance.

TECH MEETS SAFETY: THE EME GUARD XS SOLUTION FOR RF DETECTION

The MVG EME Guard XS emerges as a key solution to these challenges, according to the company. "We tried RF detection devices from other companies and found some were too heavy," Mr. Le Moal explained, underscoring the need for a reliable, user-friendly tool. "This RF safety tool is extremely easy to use and creates a safer working environment in the areas of installation and maintenance." The EME Guard XS's ability to provide real-time EMF monitoring ensures that technicians can work within safe EMF thresholds, significantly mitigating the risks associated with RF radiation exposure.

Mediaco's commitment to safety is exemplified through meticulous operational practices. Before commencing work, technicians verify that power to the antennas is disconnected to prevent exposure to harmful EMF levels, with the EME Guard XS serving as an indispensable tool for confirming safe conditions. "Tower techs need devices to detect RF waves. It's more than a need—they can't work safely without an RF detector," Mr. Le Moal emphasized.

AHEAD OF THE CURVE: MEDIACO'S VISION FOR SAFER TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The adoption of the EME Guard XS has set new safety standards within the telecom sector, demonstrating the impactful role of technology in addressing operational challenges. Mediaco says its forward-looking approach is characterized by a continuous commitment to leveraging innovative solutions that enhance safety and operational efficiency. "As the industry evolves, so will our solutions," Mr. Le Moal noted, looking towards a future where advancements in technology further safeguard those who maintain the critical infrastructure of our connected world.

EME GUARD XS 40 GHZ



Accurate measurement with triaxial isotropic probe

Continuous monitoring of EMF levels up to 40 GHz

Instant audio & visual alarms

Compatible with FCC 96-326, ICNIRP 2020, Safety Code 6 2015

Ruggedized design for all weather conditions



MVG - Testing Connectivity for a Wireless World

The Microwave Vision Group offers cutting-edge technologies for the visualization of electromagnetic waves. With advanced test solutions for antenna characterization, radar signature evaluation and electromagnetic measurements, we support company R&D teams in their drive to innovate and boost product development.





For more information: <u>www.mvg-world.com</u>

or contact us: www.mvg-world.com/en/contact

