

## Security That's Hard to Find

When the SnapLink radio was introduced into the backhaul of a DoD test system for UAVs (Unmanned Aerial Vehicles), it joined a host of other radios being evaluated



for the same purpose. The UAVs download their video and data to pre-positioned sensor packages on the ground. That data is then backhauled to the Command Post. Each radio system under evaluation was easily able to backhaul the required data.

**Enter the Red Team** from the Pentagon. Their job is to find weaknesses by detecting, intercepting and jamming the communication links of the UAV

system. The **Red Team** had little trouble detecting the backhaul links of other radios, intercepting their traffic and jamming them.

Except, the backhaul data continued to flow without interruption from the SnapLink. The **Red Team** was not able to detect/find the SnapLink radio and therefore could not intercept its signal nor jam it. Undeterred, the leader of the **Red Team** requested a SnapLink specification sheet. They then acquired additional equipment and antennas and



returned two weeks later to attempt to specifically intercept and jam the SnapLink product. No such luck! They were still not able to detect or jam the SnapLink. The leader of the **Red Team** continually asked throughout the testing if this was really a commercially available product. The answer was always they same; yes and it's in stock.

The **Red Team** finally admitted defeat as outlined in their briefing report dated June 2008:



## Lessons Learned



- **LPR backhaul link (SnapLink Radio)**
  - **Description: Unable to detect or jam. Low Probability of Intercept(LPI)/Low Probability of Detect (LPD) RF signal due to relatively high operating frequency (24 GHz) and very narrow beamwidth antennas.**
  - **Solution (to detect or jam) : None**

SnapLink offers a level of security and interference free operation that is clearly: **Hard to Find**. Ask the **Red Team**.