USF Available Technologies

Technology Transfer Office

Wireless Emergency-Reporting System

Researchers at the University of South Florida have developed a system that uses personal devices with GPS to communicate emergency information in real-time.

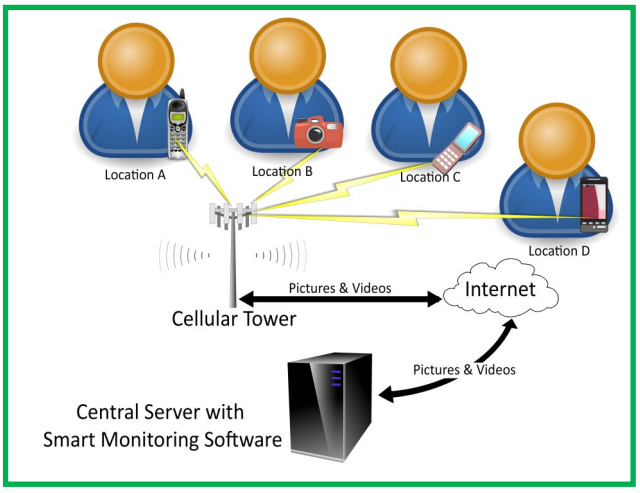
Communication is very important in our day-to-day life but it becomes crucial during and after a disaster. It is essential to update people with one's location during an emergency (i.e. earthquake, cyclone, flood, etc.). Additionally, it may be pertinent to inform them about evacuation warnings, routes and evacuation zones. Thus, there is a need to overcome the serious flaws in the existing communication systems. What is needed is a method to enable emergency communication in a cost effective way to fill gaps in communication by gathering real-time information.

Researchers at USF have created a novel technology that efficiently fills in gaps in emergency communications in a cost effective way. The Wi-Via system intelligently filters, classifies, and displays simultaneous submissions from various locations onto one visual, a computer screen. This allows a dispatcher to manage the incident more efficiently. This system takes advantage of scalable technologies that are widely used by the public, such as a camera cellphone, to augment and boost intelligence gathering, analysis and sharing. The application can send evacuation zone information and messages to cell phone users based on their current location. Multi-media messaging could be delivered in users' own languages simultaneously while reaching more people in less time. This development will greatly enhance emergency situation management by allowing more rapid information exchange among more individuals.

ADVANTAGES:

- **Easy gathering of massive information**
- **Improves transportation security**
- **Efficient architecture**
- **Cost effective**

Emergency Communication Systems



A Schematic of Wi-Via Concept

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