

Woodland Managers in Sweden Choose Globalstar's SPOT Gen3 to Enhance Safety for Forest Rangers and Hydro-electricity Staff

Highlights:

- Swedish regional forest management company, [Orsa Besparingsskog](#), has selected [SPOT Gen3®](#) devices to safeguard forest rangers, timber workers and hydro-electricity staff
- [Orsa Besparingsskog](#) chose SPOT Gen3 for its satellite reach, help and SMS functionality, providing a safety lifeline to staff working beyond the reach of GSM cellular
- Pocket-sized, rugged and affordable SPOT messengers have been used in over 5,500 rescues world-wide to date

Dublin, Ireland, March 05 2018 – [Globalstar Europe Satellite Services Ltd.](#), a wholly owned subsidiary of [Globalstar Inc.](#) and the leader in satellite messaging and emergency notification technologies, announces that [Orsa Besparingsskog](#), a company which manages a range of forestry, commercial and recreational activities in the vast woodlands of Sweden's Orsa region, has selected [SPOT Gen3®](#) to improve safety for forest-based workers and hydro-electricity personnel.

Orsa Besparingsskog is responsible for managing approximately 75,000 hectares of woodland owned by a consortium of local owner-partners. This includes overseeing 60,000 hectares of woodland, harvesting and selling timber and maintaining Orsa's extensive road network. Also, an important part of the business is Tallheds Plantskola, a large nursery where trees and plants are grown to ensure the long-term sustainability and welfare of Orsa's forests.

The company also owns eight small hydroelectric power plants located in neighbouring Gävleborgs County, delivering approximately 28 GWh to the Swedish electricity grid.

Fredrik Eriksson, Senior Ranger with Orsa Besparingsskog, explains: "We were anxious to provide a means of communication and safety for our staff who spend long periods of time in remote areas with no reliable GSM signal."

Orsa Besparingsskog considered using alternative solutions and technologies, but SPOT Gen3 was chosen for its superior, reliable reach. Additionally, SPOT's help button and SMS message capability were deemed as unique and compelling, and were persuasive factors in the procurement decision. "The help function is especially useful in cases where there has been a vehicle breakdown or puncture in the forest," says Eriksson. "Now, with our SPOT devices, our teams feel safer and connected," he added.

If a forest ranger or electricity worker encounters an emergency, a simple press of SPOT's SOS instantly sends an alert and the user's GPS co-ordinates to the [GEOS International Emergency Response Coordination Centre \(IERCC\)](#). Details of the emergency are immediately transmitted to local first responders and help is rapidly dispatched to the precise location it is needed.

Robert Clarke, Globalstar EMEA Sales Manager, commented: "Year on year, we are seeing an increasing uptake of SPOT to enhance the safety of remote and at-risk workers who carry out their operations in locations where alternative communications options are limited or non-existent."

"We are delighted to support the team at Orsa Besparingsskog as they manage Orsa's forests, enabling landowners to maximise the value of their assets, and helping to ensure the region remains a great place to enjoy recreation and do business," Clarke added.

SPOT Gen3 delivers a range of functionalities which can be programmed to meet the user's specific needs. Its tracking feature allows first responders and colleagues to locate staff even if they are unable to press the emergency button following an incident. SPOT Gen3 can be pre-configured to send location data to a central operations co-ordinator every 2.5, 5, 10, 30 or 60 minutes.

Globalstar's family of SPOT GPS satellite messengers have initiated more than 5,500 rescues worldwide since its initial 2007 launch.

About Orsa Besparingsskog

Orsa Besparingsskog is a private company which was founded in 1879 to create prosperity for the Orsa region of central Sweden. Sparsely populated Orsa is famous for its vast forests and is a popular holiday location. The region's forest is central to the region's economy and serves as an engine to drive the many diverse economic activities supporting businesses and people now and into the future. Today, Orsa Besparingsskog has a land holding of approximately 75,000 hectares of which 60,000 hectares are productive woodland. An important part of the business is Tallheds Plantskola, a large nursery where trees and plants are grown to ensure the health and welfare of Orsa's forests in the future. As of 2013, Orsa Besparingsskog owns eight power plants, which are managed by Orsa Besparingsskog's subsidiary Streamgate North AB. Orsa Besparingsskog's operational activities support recreational hunting, fishing and cottage rental. It manages an extensive road network which is used for forestry operations and by the public. A portion of revenue from its various business areas is returned to the organisation's partners and to the community in the form of grants and various development projects. Orsa and Besparingsskogen are geographically located in a borderland between Dalarna and Hälsingland, with Härjedalen to the north.

www.orsabesparingsskog.se

About SPOT LLC

SPOT LLC, a subsidiary of Globalstar, Inc., provides affordable satellite communication and tracking devices for recreational use. SPOT Global Phone uses the Globalstar network to transmit two-way voice and data communications. SPOT messaging devices use both the GPS satellite network and the Globalstar network to transmit text messages and GPS coordinates. Since 2007, SPOT has provided peace of mind by allowing customers to remain in contact completely independent of cellular coverage, having initiated over 5,500 rescues worldwide. For more information, visit FindMeSPOT.com.

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