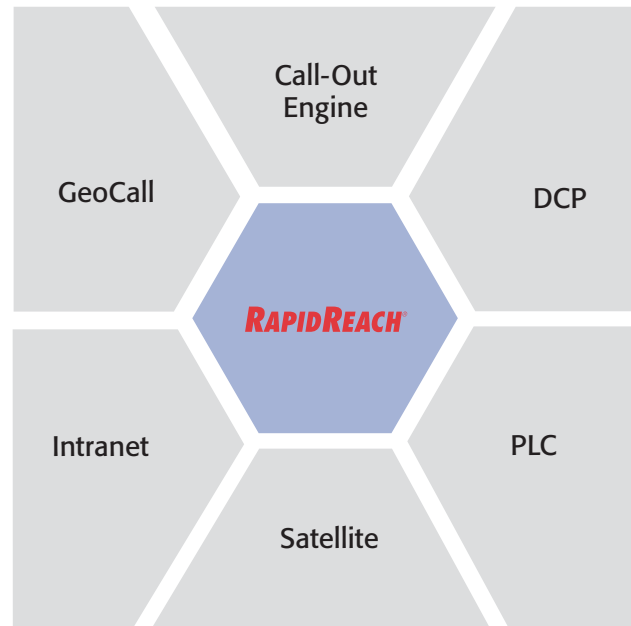


# PLC Interface



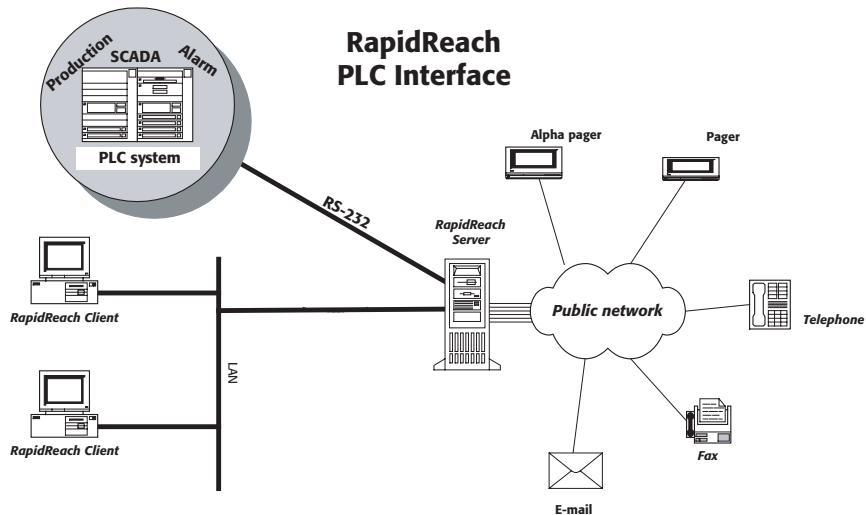
**Add the power of an automated call-out system to your existing systems**



Do situations occur where it would be useful to initiate call-outs from your existing process control, alarm or supervision system? This is now possible through the RapidReach PLC interface option where a system event can automatically start communication activities according to predefined scenarios.

## **What is the RapidReach PLC Interface?**

The RapidReach PLC Interface allows you to automatically initiate calls to phones, mobile phones, pagers, alpha pagers or send faxes and E-mails from your existing PLC, alarm or any other system. Critical events can automatically trigger call procedures contacting an emergency team and key personnel or inform management and external contacts. The call-out scenarios can even trigger a PLC or alarm system to initiate actions such as a shut down of processes or sirens activation. By using a standard serial communications protocol the PLC system can be interfaced to existing systems irrespective of equipment, operating system or development tools.



## How does it work?

Implementing the activation of a scenario is done easily. The PLC system initiates a scenario by sending a simple packet including the scenario ID to the RapidReach system. The RapidReach system can also, through the PLC Interface, send information to the PLC system to open or close electrical switches. Acknowledgement and watchdog functionality is implemented to improve the system safety. The communication between the PLC system and RapidReach follows a simple standard protocol format. Using more advanced capabilities in the PLC Interface such as the two-way "watchdog" functionality, one can define

scenarios to be activated in the event that the PLC system is not working properly. Conversely - if the RapidReach system is not working properly - the PLC system can be programmed to respond. All communication is accomplished using a serial RS-232 port. Several call-outs can be activated simultaneously through the PLC Interface. The ordinary RapidReach application can of course also run and start call-outs in parallel. All communication between the RapidReach system and the PLC or alarm system is recorded to a log file.

### RapidReach PLC Interface features:

- RapidReach PLC Interface enables systems to utilize the powerful RapidReach call-out technology as if it was a part of the system.
- Communication between RapidReach and the external system is accomplished by an easy to use text based packet protocol using a RS-232 connection.
- Two-way watchdog functionality is provided to make it possible for RapidReach to monitor the external system and start a scenario if the external system is not responding properly. RapidReach itself can, in the same way, be monitored by the external system.
- Positions, individuals and organisations can be contacted using:
  - phones and mobile phones
  - alpha paging and SMS
  - numerical pagers and beepers
  - fax machines
  - e-mail
  - PLC or alarm actions
- Call-outs can be initiated from:
  - a PLC system
  - a process control system
  - an alarm system
  - a security system
  - a facility management system
  - a network supervising system
  - a passage system
  - a weather information system



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