



Abstract

**LOW-HEIGHT, LOW-COST, HIGH-GAIN ANTENNA AND SYSTEM FOR
MOBILE PLATFORMS**

A communication system and methodology for providing a signal of interest to at least
5 one movable platform, for possible use by passengers associated with the movable
platform, from an information source, where the movable platform is not within a signal
coverage area of the information source. The method includes steps of transmitting an
information signal containing information with a transmitter located at the information
source, receiving the information with a first transmitter/receiver unit located on a first
10 movable platform that is within the signal coverage of the information source, and re-
transmitting the information signal with the transmitter/receiver unit to a receiver
located on a second movable platform that is not within the signal coverage area of the
information source. The method may further include repeating the steps of receiving
and re-transmitting the information signal along a signal path with at least one
15 additional transmitter/receiver unit located on a third movable platform, to provide the
information signal between the first movable platform and the second movable
platform. The system comprises an information source, including a transmitter that
transmits the information signal, a transmitter/receiver unit located on a first movable
platform that received and re-transmits the information signal, and a destination that
20 includes a receiver that receives the information signal. The system may also include at
least one additional transmitter/receiver, located on a second movable platform, that
receives and re-transmits the information signal to provide the information signal
between the first movable platform and the destination.

25 Fig.1

