

**Client:**  
Nextel Corporation for the  
Detroit Transportation  
Authority

**Location:**  
Detroit, MI, U.S.A.



The Detroit Transportation Corporation is owner and operator of the Detroit People Mover, a driverless light rail system that operates on an elevated single track loop in Detroit's central business district. Trak Com Wireless developed and manufactured onboard Communications Control Units for all vehicles and a fixed Radio Communications Controller and Dispatch Console PC's as part of a project to replace an existing 800MHz based communications system with a new 900MHz system. The project was part of a recent frequency swap facilitated between the DTC and Nextel.

- **Communications Control Unit (CCU)**

The Detroit CCUs provide the following facilities:

- Interface to Passenger Access Panels which are used to provide full duplex communications between the control center and passengers requiring emergency assistance.
- Automated station announcements, generated via an onboard digital voice announcement unit (VVAU) via the Public Address (PA), and triggered from central control via the radio network
- Interface to Hostler Access Panels, which provide PA facilities for crew who move trains in the event of breakdowns or while in the yards
- Vehicle status data transfer from vehicle Health Monitoring Panels (HMP) via the radio to the wayside

The CCU also includes a custom designed 900MHz duplex radio combination used to communicate between central control and moving trains.

- **Wayside Equipment**

The wayside equipment consists of a custom Radio Communications Controller (RCC) and an associated redundant Dispatch Console PC configuration that together provide a complete communications interface between the vehicles, radio base station, and central control.