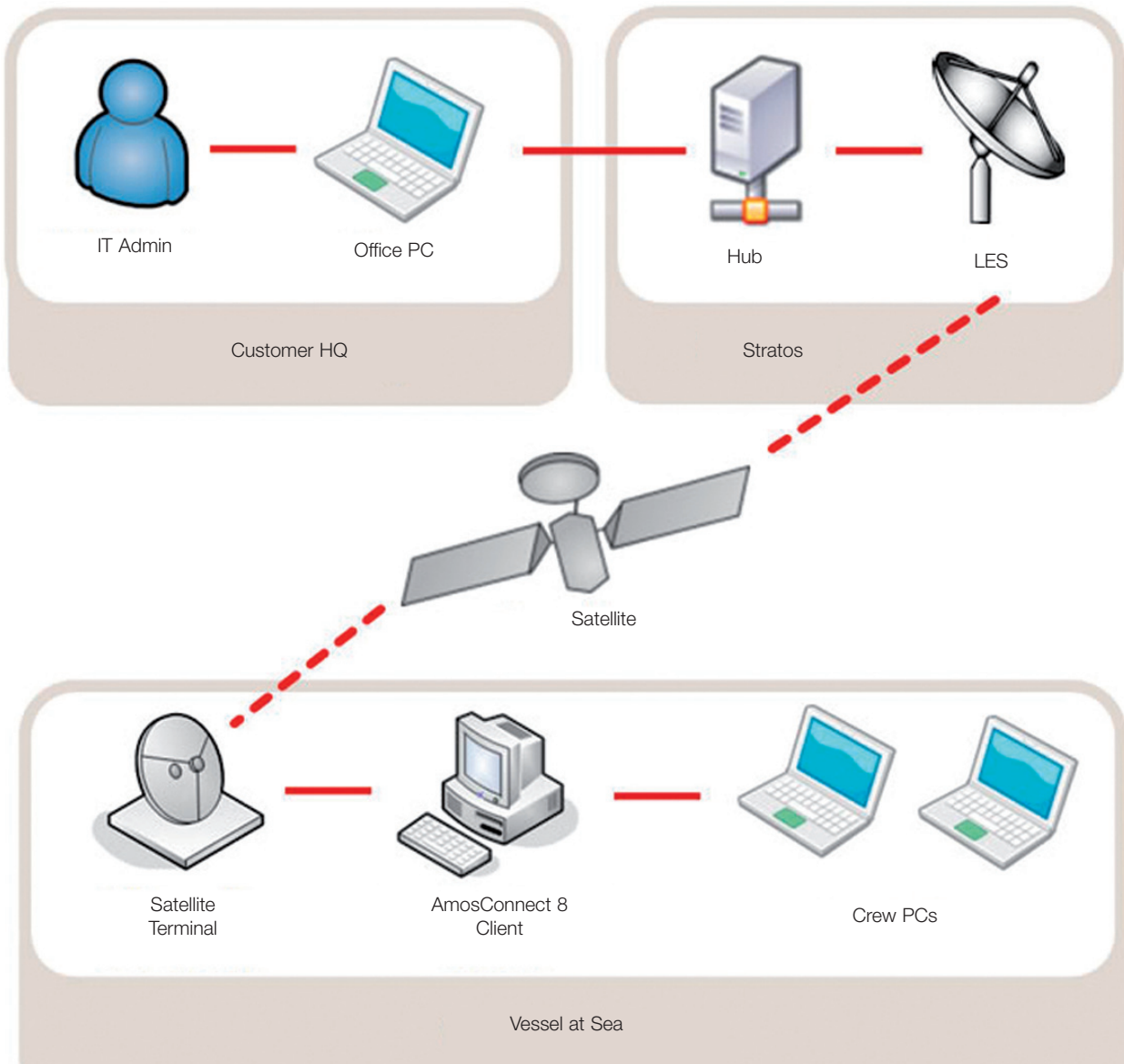


Integrated platform aims to streamline communications



AmosConnect 8 is used for remote IT support via a satellite connection

For the past couple of years, broadband uptake at sea has begun to rise sharply. Inmarsat's FleetBroadband offering alone has 10,000 installations, with around half of them connecting through Stratos' products. This is one of the reasons why the company has updated its AmosConnect maritime communications solution.

"Broadband connection at sea is happening faster than expected; it is quite exceptional," Michiel Meijer, Stratos' maritime marketing manager, told MEC. Indeed, AmosConnect passed

With the introduction of AmosConnect 8, Stratos believes it has a powerful system which can enable access to many functionalities in one portal

a milestone on 21 July, with the announcement that 250 million messages have been sent over this maritime satellite communications service. "AmosConnect has been in service since 2001

and is already active on over 20,000 vessels; now we have developed a new generation version called AmosConnect 8, said Mr Meijer.

"We started this project four years ago, and we carried out interviews with some of our key customers. The result was a list of 600 requirements! We then began development two years ago." Subsequently, AmosConnect 8 was launched commercially in June.

One of the specified requirements was that the system needed to be backwards compatible with narrowband connections.

