

# Remote Monitoring through Short Message Service

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## Abstract

*In this paper, an attempt is made to showcase a simple but effective way to remotely monitor systems from anywhere in the world. This is done by combining basic system monitoring techniques with one of the most used services of the GSM standard - the Short Message Service, or SMS. The content of this paper is applicable wherever there is a presence of a GSM based cellular networks. There is a visible focus on India, as it is a perfect example of a third world country, where access to the Internet is not uniformly distributed. There are many "Blind Spots" in our country where access to any kind of an electronic network is a luxury. However, lately, there has been a sharp increase in the widespread use of one particular electronic network - GSM. Cellular Telephony is very widely used in India, and almost all the states are covered by at least one cellular provider. This paper describes a technique to form a "glue" between two globally connected but mutually disconnected networks. This "glue" can be very useful for remotely interacting with a host on the Internet to perform various monitoring or administrating tasks. A proof of concept application, SMSTerm, is also discussed in the paper. This application uses the ICQ service as the Internet <-> GSM gateway to send and receive SMS. This protocol is used because of its minimal network usage and capability to work from behind a firewall or a proxy. SMSTerm has been tried and tested by users from various countries and has been able to cater to several different situations.*

*presented at "D.E. Shaw India - infinity 2002" National Level Technical Symposium hosted by the Student Branch of the Computer Society of India, Osmania University, Hyderabad.*