

CASE STUDY



Hinchinbrook Shire Council Wireless Broadband Connectivity



The Client

Hinchinbrook Shire Council is located in Ingham, North Queensland. The Council has 7 remote locations and approximately 131 employees carry out the day to day function of providing services to the Hinchinbrook community. Under the current Road Register, the Council maintains 760km of roads and streets and operates and maintains approximately \$34 million of water and sewerage infrastructure. The Council is divided into three core streams: Corporate Services, Engineering Services and Environmental Health Services.

The Challenge

Hinchinbrook Shire Council wanted to deliver centralised services to staff working in remote sites, therefore increasing productivity. One of the main challenges for CBO engineers was the reduced line of site between the council buildings and to deliver high quality network bandwidth to the Halifax water tower, which is located 17km away.

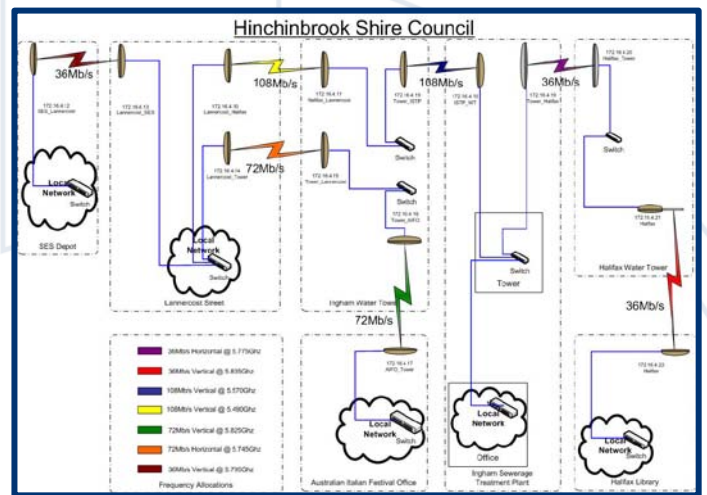
The solution needed to be cost effective and be able to integrate with the councils existing IT infrastructure with little or no interruption.

The Solution

In order to meet the needs of Hinchinbrook Shire Council, CBO designed for and installed Solectek point to point links at each remote location. These are fully integrated weatherized outdoor radio and antennas with a range of over 10km. Solectek radios come standard with OFDM (Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing) technology which provides increased spectral frequency with higher data rates - all the while providing multiple, no overlapping channels. OFDM is capable of performing near or non-line-of-sight links.

They also overcame the stringent installation requirements associated with previous generation wireless equipment and improved RF link robustness. OFDM is also much more immune to multipath problems and resistant to potential interference.

The large bandwidth supports heavy user traffic including large data files, video, MP3 files and other high bandwidth applications such as streaming multimedia.



Deployed Network Topology

Results

As a result of the installed links, Hinchinbrook Shire Council has experience higher throughput and increased bandwidth which has resulted in the desired productivity improvements.

“The council has deployed a number of Wireless WAN links with CBO over recent years. We had line of site challenges that we thought would make high bandwidth connectivity out of our reach. The engineers at CBO exceeded our expectations by delivering high bandwidth with links up to 17km. This delivered an affordable business solution by demonstrating the OFDM capability of the Solectek radios.”

Colin Valinoti, Information Technology Manager.

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