

CAPE COD AT HIGH SPEED



It was quickly becoming clear that the town of Bourne needed to upgrade its five-year-old wireless network. Virtually every department and user - from public safety operations to administrative offices - was clamoring for more speed. Cheri Campbell, IT Director, Town of Bourne, puts it succinctly, "We need more bandwidth."

SITUATION

As the number of visitors continues to increase, so do demands on the town's public safety, public works and public administration professionals. Town leaders determined the need to upgrade the original wireless network to provide even higher speed communications and Internet access to enhance productivity for police officers, firefighters, EMTs, and all other municipal employees using the network.

SOLUTION

The network connects eight municipal facilities located on both sides of the Canal. "We had to build a wireless bridge across the Canal," says Bob Zakarian, President, Community WISP. "That was a challenge since water can be a significant cause of interference in a wireless environment." Connected locations include the town hall, a large community center, the Police Department, two fire facilities, two public works locations, and the school administration building.

RESULT

"We were able to replace the old equipment with the new PMP 430 equipment at the water tower - the hub of the network. We had the PMP 430 network up and running in two days," says Bob Zakarian.

The network handles numerous applications. "We use a variety of financial and clerical applications, such as payroll and meeting scheduling. We transfer that data securely and at high speed to our terminal server at the town hall," says Campbell. "We get hard weather here, and it's always windy on the Canal. The new network is very stable, saving maintenance costs and providing superior availability. The system has never failed because of weather. I love it."

CUSTOMER PROFILE

With a population of 18,000, the town of Bourne, Massachusetts is bisected by the Cape Cod Canal and serves as the gateway to the Cape. Every person going to and from the Cape passes through Bourne. That's a huge challenge for the town's 600 municipal employees - including police, fire, and EMTs. They need powerful communications capabilities to help public safety, public works, and public administration workers to excel. Like every other municipality in the country, the town also needs to control costs. Although their old network had been reliable for many years, Campbell and her colleagues knew they needed faster, less costly communications.

Tom Woods is director of Wireless Solutions at Bourne's service provider, Community WISP. "One day, Cheri Campbell called and said, 'Tom, we need to go faster.' All of their departments, including police and fire, were demanding more speed. It turned out that Bourne's situation was perfect for the PMP 430 from Cambium Networks."