A New Era for Public Safety in Rural Ohio

Overview

In the Appalachian reaches of rural Ohio, high performance Wi-Fi has only just arrived. Dial-up Internet access extended into limited areas, but many lacked even cell phone coverage. New Era Broadband of Pomeroy, OH decided to tackle the challenge of supplying reliable, high-speed Wi-Fi for the benefit of the hard-to-reach communities in need.

New Era was particularly concerned with connecting the area’s fire houses. Local firefighters were struggling to prevent their certifications from lapsing due to lack of access to required online training programs. Loss of those certifications, inability to file emergency reports online, and even rely on communications infrastructure necessary for rapid response vital for public safety was too great a risk for these communities.

Challenges

New Era had to find a solution that would overcome the central obstacles of rugged terrain and very limited resources. They had to leverage any available infrastructure, such as partnering with the counties’ emergency medical services to mount equipment on existing radio towers or get support to erect new ones.

Why New Era Chose Cambium Networks:

- From dial-up to High Speed for rural fire houses and surrounding homes, affordably.
- A 500-fold increase in bandwidth, from 40 kbps to 20 Mbps. Reliability and speed for vital response time in public safety.
- Supports essential applications: online training videos (streaming), regular internet usage, reporting software for the fire houses, VPN, and more.
The gear itself was key; New Era Owner Dave Hannum explains “We’ve not used any other supplier for these applications - simply because the Cambium ePMP synced product can’t be touched in terms of value. And nobody else has the synced 900 MHz PMP dual-pole radios with the throughput that the Cambium radios have.”

**Results**

With Cambium equipment, New Era was able to to provide speeds and capacity to service not only the fire stations, but also the surrounding communities. The value is that the fire stations can remain relevant. When fire fighters need continuing education or re-certification, they can now do it from home or the station – and accurate, up-to-date records can be kept online.

**Best Practice Tips from New Era**

Know and understand your available Non Line of Sight connectivity options

A great solution lets you use different frequencies and capabilities within one system to create the solution you need

**ABOUT CAMBIUM NETWORKS**

Cambium Networks is a leading global provider of wireless broadband solutions that connect the unconnected. Through its extensive portfolio of reliable, scalable and secure narrowband SCADA, Wi-Fi and wireless broadband point-to-point (PTP) and point-to-multipoint (PMP) platforms managed by cloud-based software, Cambium Networks makes it possible for all service providers; enterprises; government and military agencies; oil, gas and utility companies; Internet service providers; and public safety networks to build powerful communications networks, reach users from 250 kilometers across mountain tops down to the last meter to their devices and intelligently manage their infrastructure through end-to-end network visibility and actionable analytics. Headquartered outside Chicago and with R&D centers in the U.S., Ashburton, U.K., and Bangalore, India, Cambium Networks sells through a range of trusted global distributors.

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