

Company: Beckett Rankine Partnership

Industry: Marine consultancy, building and construction

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Daniel Cash, Systems Architect, Beckett Rankine Partnership

The challenge: A fast, reliable symmetrical connection

Beckett Rankine Partnership is a marine consultancy that specialises in designing ports, harbours and piers. Work can range from designing one single pier to managing design and construction for an entire port complex. Approximately fifty percent of the work is carried out in the UK, with the other fifty percent taking place internationally. It is therefore often necessary to send large files, sometimes up to 1GB, to partners and clients as far afield as the Middle East, Russia and India.

Beckett Rankine Partnership's biggest challenge was finding a suitable solution for backing up the detailed design and data files. They had previously physically taken back up files off site by storing the entire server contents on removable hard drives, and carrying the hardware by hand out of the office overnight. This was not an ideal solution and a safe, secure and reliable service was vital. With thousands of gigabytes being backed up each night the risks were such that removable storage hard drives could not remain a viable long term solution.

For their overall requirement, Beckett Rankine needed a network that would allow quick and reliable back up as well as the capacity to upload files as large as 1GB to external sites that customers can view. Beckett Rankine decided to trial Urban Wimax as a solution offering symmetrical upload and download capabilities for these large amounts of data.

Implementing Urban Wimax

In August 2006, Urban Wimax installed capabilities at Beckett Rankine's London office. Having remotely assessed the signal strength in Beckett Rankine's local area it simply involved installation of an antenna on the roof and a cable fitted into the main office, which is then attached to a router.

Urban Wimax uses a 'standards-based' Wide Area Network technology that provides high-throughput broadband connections over long distances. It is an intelligent technology that supports many different types of application, from videoconferencing through remote access to web surfing, all at high level of service.

An engineer from Urban Wimax spent half a day setting up the service, with Daniel Cash then spending approximately two hours to configure the back up and an hour to test the network. It was an easy installation process with minimal disruption to business practices and the service has run smoothly without significant interruption since deployment.



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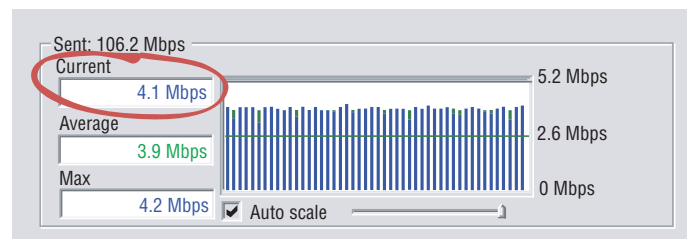
Significant Urban Wimax benefits

Since Urban Wimax implemented its solution, Beckett Rankine has seen major benefits. Back up files are now easily and securely transferred over the network to the off site location and can be monitored centrally from the office.

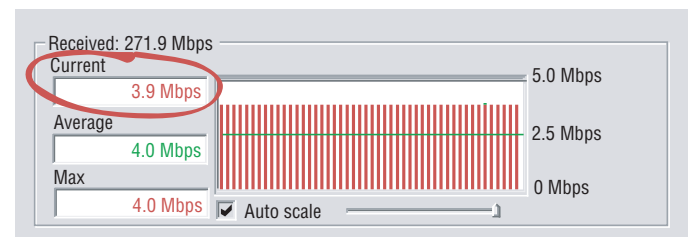
The company also no longer needs to depend on couriers or postal services to send large files of designs and plans on CD. Instead it can now be confident that all files are received directly. Beckett Rankine can use the fast data upload capability to post files for collection by partners or clients on an external site. Previously it could have taken up to a day to send a 1GB file to this site, but the same file can now be sent in less than an hour a day using the Urban Wimax network. Engineers can also now upload files at 4Mbps, a massive increase from the original 236kbps over ADSL.

The partnership now plans to link the ADSL connectivity and the Urban Wimax network together. This will enable data traffic to easily be shifted between ADSL and Urban Wimax systems in the event of loss of connectivity of either system.

Urban Wimax Independent Test Results



Download



Upload



Summary:

Key Benefits:

- Back up can be sent off site safely and easily monitored from the office
- Much quicker to upload files
- Less reliant on couriers, post or third parties for sending huge files

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