



Case Study: Horizon Oil

A unique solution developed for Horizon Oil which combines the portability of quick deploy equipment with a satellite service; offering immediately available and flexible bandwidth pool.

Communications and logistics are one of the most complex decisions today's mining, oil and gas companies have to face. The decision's complexity is reinforced further for those requiring frequent site relocations. The exploration team needs to communicate as if every remote site is only an extension to their corporate network; optimise the logistics process associated with relocation and minimising the costs of both.



As a dedicated service provider to the industry, SpeedCast has invested in the R&D process to develop an end-to-end FlyCast™ solution with a set of options specific to temporary network deployment at mining, exploration and construction sites.

With SpeedCast's FlyCast™ Solution, you can design your own communication solution by pre-configuring it to a set of your desired features. SpeedCast has made it as simple as choosing your service options, hardware and antenna type.



Communication Challenges

Finding a solution compatible with specific network requirements, yet portable to suit frequent site relocations can be a difficult task. In this instance, the communications infrastructure has to be ruggedized and easy to deploy and operate.

Furthermore, the network service needs to meet the corporate needs as well as the needs of the workers living on site, whilst being scalable to allow for future growth and expansion.

Failure to address corporate and personal communication needs will compromise productivity and result in unhappy personnel. Ideally, the company should be offered a solution which provides reliable industry-specific communications, whilst being robust enough to support frequent site relocations.

Logistical Challenges

Setting up a traditional VSAT service can be difficult and resource-consuming when relocating every few weeks. Dismantling, transporting and installing the equipment often requires the service provider's help which will incur extra time and costs in the logistics chain. In this situation, quick deploy communication becomes a more viable solution.



Solution

To overcome the communication and logistical challenges associated with frequent site relocation, Horizon Oil – a company exploring for oil and gas in PNG, needed a solution which would combine the portability of quick deploy equipment with a satellite service; offering immediately available and flexible bandwidth pool.

The exploration activities required a camp relocation every 2-3 months until a permanent camp would be set up. In PNG's Western Province region, transport infrastructure is limited, with heavy lift helicopters the primary freight option for camp relocation. Consequently, the equipment had to be highly portable, and simple to set up and operate with minimum technical support in a hot and humid tropical environment.

The key communication requirement was the availability of dedicated bandwidth for a VPN, supporting internet and voice applications. In addition, instant wireless and voice access had to be available, the worker welfare solution incorporated into the network, and the voice communications prioritised.



“Having access to a communications network which could be up and running with short lead times, whilst minimizing the logistical challenges is important during the initial exploration stages”, said Graham Madsen, KDC – Project Consultants to Horizon Oil. “We congratulate SpeedCast on developing a solution that precisely meets our customer needs and allows us to cost-effectively manage bandwidth and equipment across all locations, added Mr Madsen.

The resource sector's unique requirements prompted SpeedCast to deploy a communications solution with a set of options specific to temporary network deployment at mining, exploration and construction sites. Although, the solution can be standardized, the customer has an option of choosing their desired hardware, service and the antenna type.

In the case of Horizon Oil, the solution included a 2.4 meter semi-fixed antenna, a ruggedized equipment rack and a VPN service with dedicated bandwidth. Based on one of SpeedCast's corporate C-Band platforms, the service supports simultaneous, but separated, corporate voice and internet applications and recreational traffic. An additional QoS platform ensures that the priority is given to the voice traffic. The dedicated bandwidth pool allows for sharing of satellite bandwidth between operations in the day and welfare applications such as Social Media and Skype at night.

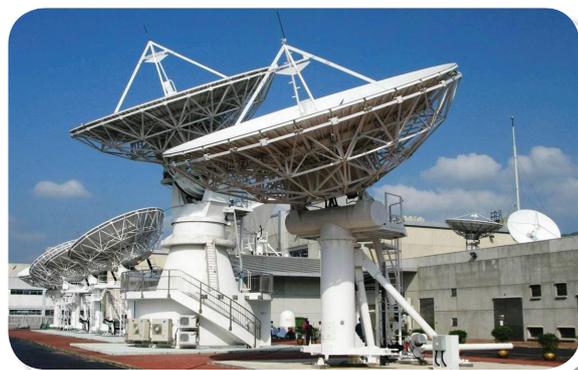
The equipment and antenna were designed for rapid and simple deployment with training for self-install and commissioning, allowing the company to save time and costs associated with logistics and equipment operation and maintenance.

About SpeedCast

SpeedCast is a leading global network and satellite communications service provider offering high-quality managed networks services in over 60 countries throughout Asia-Pacific, the Middle East, Europe and Africa; and a global maritime network serving customers worldwide. With 16 international sales & support offices and 30 teleport operations, SpeedCast has a unique infrastructure to serve corporate and carriers' requirements globally.

SpeedCast has established a strong position in Australia with the acquisition of two major satellite industry players, Australian Satellite Communications and Pactel International. As a result, the company is serving a large base of oil & gas and mining customers around the country and can leverage a team of over 50 professionals in Australia and over 100 in Asia-Pacific to support the needs of its natural resources customers in the region.

In Asia-Pacific, SpeedCast's infrastructure covers the region's other major oil & gas and mining hubs: Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Jakarta, Port Moresby and Dubai, allowing SpeedCast to support their customers wherever they operate.



For more information, contact us at sales.pacific@speedcast.com or call +61 2 9531 7555

About Horizon Oil

Horizon Oil Limited is listed on the Australian Stock Exchange (ASX) and is one of Australia's leading junior upstream oil & gas companies. It is currently included in the ASX 300 index with a market capitalisation of around US\$400 million (April 2012). Horizon Oil's ASX stock code is HZN.

Horizon Oil's head office is located in Sydney, Australia and oversees the Company's international operations. Horizon Oil's focus area is South East Asia and Australasia where there is a strong demand for oil and gas, a mature operating environment and limited competition from big companies. Horizon Oil's portfolio includes offshore production and exploration assets in New Zealand and assets under development and/or appraisal offshore China and onshore PNG. Horizon Oil's PNG assets include a 50% interest in PRL 4, which contains the Stanley gas / condensate field and a 50% interest in PRL 21, which contains the Elevala and Ketu gas / condensate discoveries. Horizon Oil has been active in PNG since the late 1990's, establishing a permanent office in Port Moresby in 2009.

Further information can be obtained at www.horizonoil.com.au

