



Case Study: Allied Gold

Pactel International delivered a complete turnkey solution to Allied Gold, based on a C-Band VSAT network by providing a direct link from the remote mines in PNG and Solomon Islands back to their data centres in Brisbane.



Pactel International Pty Ltd
Phone: +612 9531 7555
Fax: +612 9531 8391
Email: sales@pactelint.com
Web: www.pactelint.com

Project

In September 2009, Allied Gold appointed Pactel International to design a solution, which could provide high speed data services between their Brisbane data centres and their remote Simberi mine in Papua New Guinea. The new platform had to replace an existing lower bandwidth communication system and needed to be cost-effective, whilst being robust enough to withstand the extreme weather conditions and harsh environment of the region.

A major service requirement of the new platform was for the Gold Ridge mine to be remotely monitored and managed by Allied Gold's IT staff in Brisbane. The platform also needed to facilitate effective low latency and high availability connectivity for critical applications such as Email, File Sharing, Document Management as well as Citrix access to the ERP system hosted in Brisbane.

In addition, one year later, as the company's operations expanded, a completely new link was required into Allied Gold's Gold Ridge Mine in the Solomon Islands, which also needed to provide high quality voice services to the corporate office in Brisbane.

Solution

Pactel International delivered a complete turnkey solution to Allied Gold, based on its C-Band VSAT network by providing a direct link from PNG back to Brisbane.

The company's new C-Band VSAT platform offers the following benefits:

- 24 x 7 online support system and network management
- Automatic bandwidth shaping, delivering bandwidth-efficient applications
- Increased reliability and throughput
- Ruggedized design to suit the extreme weather conditions and harsh environment of PNG
- Total flexibility of system layout, with the options of placing more terminals and sharing or increasing bandwidth in the future.

Pactel's VSAT C-Band platform represents a Layer 2, end-to-end SCPC WAN solution, which provides unprecedented performance and low latency. It is based on the cutting edge technology, utilising the latest modulation techniques to ensure efficiency, reliability, availability and throughput.

Challenges Faced

The design and testing of this service proceeded according to the schedule, however at the same time encountering a number of challenges including:

- Environmental: the initial installation had to be performed in a harsh working environment with heavy rainfall during the installation process.
- Design: the equipment had to be designed simple enough to be installed and operated by the non-technical staff, thus reducing the installation and operation costs.
- Physical: The new technology had to cope with extreme weather conditions, such as high temperatures, high humidity and heavy rains.

Results

Despite the challenges faced, Pactel International successfully implemented a new C-Band VSAT system, able to deliver high quality voice and data services to the remote regions of PNG.

The simple and centralised administration allows for effective network monitoring of the VSAT terminals via Pactel's Network Operations Centre. It now allows for Allied Gold to remotely access critical information and monitor their sites on a continuous basis. Relevant personnel now have the ability to remotely login to check details such as throughput, uptime and latency.

Pactel's expertise assisted in producing a system which is designed to survive in remote locations under harsh weather conditions. It's new technology delivers reliable, weather proof, cost and bandwidth efficient communications, empowering any client to deliver their services at the highest quality.

Allied Gold's staff now have access to a reliable communication system, which provides voice and data services, enabling the company to seamlessly run industry-specific applications such as:

- High speed, bandwidth-efficient Intranet access
- Direct Layer 2 connectivity to domestic private IP networks
- Telephony and Fax over IP
- Real-time data exchange
- Remote Terminal Server access

Service Expansion

As Allied Gold expanded its exploration and development activities into the Solomon Islands in 2010, Pactel International was able to respond rapidly by creating another symmetrical link into this remote region. The new link was designed to provide similar communication services as for the Simberi Gold mine in PNG and was increased in size six months later.

Steffen Holzt, Executive Director of Pactel International said "Customers like Allied Gold are our prime focus in the resource market and we acknowledge the importance of satellite links like these into the remote regions. We appreciate the trust companies like Allied Gold have in our abilities to deliver vital communications, which whole industries can depend on."

Allied Gold

Allied Gold is an Australian owned, ASX listed, growing Pacific Rim gold producer with a number of independent, remotely located exploration and development projects in Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands.

Pactel International

Pactel International delivers high quality, fully customised, VSAT, ToIP (Telephony over IP) and GSM solutions to the remote locations of the Asia-Pacific region. Our solutions are implemented to match your specific telecommunications requirements, from point to point links through to fully managed network connection.



VSAT Antenna at Allied Gold's Gold Ridge mine, Solomon Islands



VSAT Antenna at Allied Gold's Simberi mine, PNG



Equipment Racks