

CASE STUDY

Internet Solutions (IS)

BACKGROUND

The Comsol / Internet Solutions' working relationship started back in 1997. By 2010 Comsol had implemented over 2000 RF Microwave links across all corners of South Africa. The IS WiNet service offers IS customers a specific alternative to incumbent connectivity options, with Comsol ensuring that this service is delivered.

The WiNet network spans through Johannesburg, Pretoria, Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, East London, Bloemfontein and Durban. Customers requiring up to 100Mbps of internet capacity (amongst other services) are serviced on the WiNet network, proving wireless to be a stable and reliable technology.

Voice solutions make up a large number of the services offered over the WiNet network. In 2005 a test 802.16d WiMax network was successfully trialed, followed by 802.16e tests in 2007/8.

CHIEF BENEFITS OF THE PROJECT

Comsol's core role in this partnership is to help build, expand and maintain IS's wireless MPLS network.

Comsol offers a full turn-key solution:

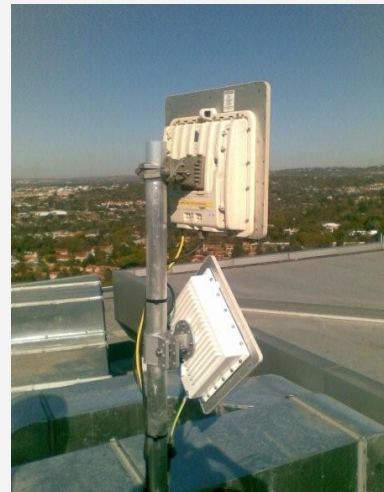
- RF network planning and optimisation
- High-site acquisition of new IS POPs
- Quick deployment of last mile client access
- Expansion of MPLS network (RF Microwave links - licensed and unlicensed networks)

CONTACT

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Last mile client links in Gauteng



Vodacom—Sandton installation



An IS 2Mbps client pointing to the relevant IS MPLS POP

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SUMMARY OF PRODUCTS

Being vendor agnostic, Comsol ensures that each RF Microwave requirement is addressed with the best possible solution:

- Backbone RF Microwave radios
 - ⇒ Dragonwave
 - ⇒ Motorola
- Last mile access: Point-to-Point and Point-to-MultiPoint
 - ⇒ Proxim
 - ⇒ Motorola
 - ⇒ Alvarion
 - ⇒ Radwin

CRITICAL DATES

Turnaround times for connectivity are high on IS's priority list. Comsol has dedicated teams allocated to the IS account, with installs being implemented within 24hours from go-ahead.

CHALLENGES

- With the short timeframes in mind, the majority of the last mile links implemented operate in the ISM band. This takes careful RF planning and implementation
- A strict SLA requires that Comsol's maintenance teams are always on standby to rectify any possible downtime. There is a dedicated person based at the IS Network Operating Centre, to ensure that the response is effective

FUTURE GROWTH

We are constantly looking to help IS develop and grow this service. From more advances/latest RF technologies to expanding the IS footprint that this partnership has grown from strength to strength.

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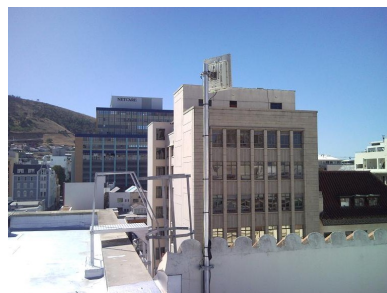
SABC backbone line to Northcliff



Typical High Site installation



Installation in progress



Carrying out a line of sight from customer premises to an IS POP