

THE SITUATION

Oil companies require broadband connectivity for their oil rigs, but satellite pricing is typically \$3,500 to \$5,000 USD per month.

ISSUES & OPTIONS

Remote industrial centers like oil-drilling platforms require reliable (and expensive!) high-speed connectivity for a variety of applications, including telecommunications services for the oil-rig's equipment and weather data. For staff, broadband access allows for distance learning, e-mail and web browsing, as well as downloading videos for after-work hours.

But satellite connections are not only expensive, they are also slow and unreliable. Clearly, a network architecture is needed that can displace satellite by providing a reliable, high-speed, cost effective link – one that's also tuned for long distances.

A wireless link is a more affordable option, but the solution must be robust as it's completely over water. Depending on the location, the equipment may be constantly cooked by heat (Middle East) or battered by cold (North Sea).

SOLUTION

Skynet offers a solution that utilizes a proven advanced orthogonal frequency division multiplexing (OFDM) technology and functions at up to 72 Mbps over the air. The system operates in the license-exempt band of 5.8 GHz and supports ranges beyond 50 miles.

RESULTS

One customer reports his oil rig receiving a remarkable 36 Mbps data rate from a distance of 88 kilometers.

BENEFITS

That customer (who asks for anonymity) reports he's no longer paying the large monthly fee for satellite, so his return on investment was less than 30 days.