

Adirondack Advanced Network (AAN) Provides Disaster Recovery Services to Remote Mountain Towns in New York

Highlights:

Client:	The Adirondack Advanced Network (AAN)
Product:	RADVISION OnLAN videoconferencing gateways Video Interface Units (VIUs) L2W Gateway
Number of EPs:	70 video conferencing end points and 40 desktops
Application:	Provide disaster recovery and communications services to remote locations in New York's Adirondack mountain region.

Why AAN Chose RADVISION:

AAN was looking for a solution that both supported IP-based end points and also its many legacy ISDN end points. The RADVISION saved network developers the expense of installing ISDN lines in each location while giving them the flexibility to move videoconferencing equipment from room to room without ever having to move lines.

Introduction:

The Adirondack Advanced Network (AAN), an IP over frame relay network, is configured with several RADVISION Gateways and Video Interface Units that provide disaster recovery and communications services to remote locations in New York's Adirondack mountain region. FEMA, the State Department of New York, Verizon, Cisco and RADVISION teamed to establish the AAN in 1997. The network was first used in January 1998 when the Adirondacks were hit by record-breaking ice storms, snow and severe cold. The New York Department of State and FEMA set up disaster recovery command centers to reach communities that had lost electric power and phone service. State Department and FEMA directors were able to maintain direct voice and video contact with the repairmen who were working to restore power to the area

AAN, which is powered by Cisco routers, was prototyped with funds from the New York State Advanced Telecommunications project funded by Verizon, formerly Bell Atlantic. The network is also used for distance learning, training and non-critical community outreach services.

Challenge:

The 70 video conferencing end points and 40 desktop conferencing systems on the network are manufactured by a number of different suppliers including PictureTel, VCON, Tandberg, VTEL and Intel. Many of these systems require data conversion from H.320 to H.323 and from ISDN to H.323.

Results:

The AAN team deployed RADVISION OnLAN videoconferencing gateways and Video Interface Units (VIUs) in order to convert H.320 data from ISDN to encapsulated H.323 so that it can run on IP over frame network. The VIU contacts the RADVISION L2W Gateway, requesting the network address of the ISDN lines. The RADVISION Gateway allows the VIU to establish its network connection and enables videoconferencing users to make multipoint calls. RADVISION's Gateway also provides all sites on the AAN with centralized access to ISDN lines. This has saved network developers the expense of installing ISDN lines in each location while giving them the flexibility of being able to move videoconferencing equipment from room to room without ever having to move lines.

About RADVISION

RADVISION (Nasdaq: RVSN) is the industry's leading provider of high quality, scalable and easy-to-use products and technologies for videoconferencing, video telephony, and the development of converged voice, video and data over IP and 3G networks. RADVISION has two distinct business units. RADVISION's Networking Business Unit (NBU) offers one of the broadest and most complete set of videoconferencing network solutions for IP- and ISDN-based networks, supporting all end points in the industry. The company also provide businesses and service providers with integrated solutions that deliver converged IP-based video telephony applications to employee computer desktops and residential broadband homes worldwide. The Company's Technology Business Unit (TBU) provides protocol development tools and platforms, enabling equipment vendors and service providers to develop and deploy new converged networks, services, and technologies. For more information please visit our website at www.radvision.com.

