

Rogers-O'Brien Construction Turns To Motion for Wireless Jobsite Connectivity

Paper Is Out

A digital deluge is overtaking the commercial construction industry. Paper rolls of desktop-size blueprints are virtually extinct, pushed to pasture by powerful computers, sophisticated design applications and gigabytes of electronic files. Architectural renderings, along with the associated plumbing, ductwork, electrical and build-out plans are now drawn and revised electronically.

Ultra-sophisticated systems like fiber optics, networking cables and specialty gas lines must also be accommodated, further crowding already congested runs. Computer generated Building Information Modeling (BIM) is the new standard in collision detection and resolution. This vital technology works exclusively with data-intensive CAD files.

Meanwhile, construction site demands continue to intensify. Owners and financiers are mandating faster builds. Drawings are often just a step or two ahead of actual construction. Change orders present a never-ending stream of adjustments. Vast quantities of materials must be inventoried and staged, ready for use almost as soon as they are dropped. And site security presents an ever-present concern.

The challenge is enormous, requiring constant and immediate electronic communication between architects, engineers, superintendents, trade subs, and sometimes building officials, owners and financiers.



Communication Is Key

Dallas-based Rogers-O'Brien is a commercial construction firm specializing in complex, large-scale projects. They have prospered over the years by aggressively integrating game-changing technologies that promise to help deliver quality work on-time, and on-budget. Project Coordinator Tim Smith was among the first to recognize that the lack of reliable on-site wireless networks presented a growing problem considering the ever-increasing need for fast, easy, computer-based communications and access to real-time design data.

"The volume of sophisticated data and supporting communications, plus the need to quickly access and share it was drowning our Legacy systems," observed Smith.

He and Rogers-O'Brien turned to Motion for help. During years of successful field use, the firm had come to rely on Motion's tough tablet computers. The objective was simple: provide these users with real-time, on-site access to dependable, secure wireless connectivity.





Based on years of experience in remote, hostile environments, the Smith and Motion team specified a self-adjusting, portable and always connected system. It must be simple to use, deploy in minutes, easily expanded, adaptable for solar or battery operation, and suited for difficult environments.

Wireless Connectivity Streamlines Progress

The result was Motion's new LINCWorks™ RDA-300, a Mesh Network device that provides fast, reliable connectivity to mobile workers across fixed sites such as home, satellite or vendor offices and the field. The system immediately establishes an area-specific WiFi LAN/WAN Mesh, enabling the efficient transfer of business critical information.

Rogers-O'Brien deployed two LINCWorks RDA-300's on their next project, a major metropolitan hospital being constructed in Central Texas. They later added a third and fourth LINCWorks RDA-300 to ensure connectivity as the building's footprint spread out and up. "We carried the equipment in and had the network up in less than an hour," said Smith. "Adding the additional units was literally a 15-minute plug-and-play operation."

The LINCWorks RDA-300's impact on site dynamics was dramatic. "Processes that once took a week or more were being accomplished in an hour. Superintendents and subs were able to talk things out on the fly working from the same real-time data. What once involved going to the office, downloading plans or revisions, printing and returning was being handled with a click and a call," Smith related. "This one aspect saved a huge amount of time, and helped keep us on schedule."

Smith says Rogers-O'Brien has seen other benefits as well. "We also have immediate access to submittals, contracts, specifications, supplier schedules — virtually all project related documentation is now just a click away. For a simple example, we recently encountered a detail conflict in the field between the glass and waterproofing subcontractors. I connected and quickly cross referenced the shop drawings and contract scope. The issue was resolved in minutes."



Learn More

Motion's LINCWorks Family of products offers powerful, portable wireless connectivity that is easy to set up and operate. From construction sites to oil and gas plays, and emergency response locations to travelling road warriors, LINCWorks RDA and VAN products offer the perfect solution anywhere quick, robust wireless connectivity is needed.

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LINCWorks: Local Instant Network Connectivity

RDA: Rapid Deploy Anywhere VAN: Vehicle Area Network

