



SDN Communications Helps Two Midwestern Banks Merge Networks

Liberty National Bank and Valley Bank Use SDN's MPLS Technology To Connect Locations And Merge Networks

The Challenge

When Liberty Financial Services, Inc., the holding company for Liberty National Bank located in Sioux City, announced its plans to merge with Sioux Falls-headquartered Valley Bank and its branches, the need for a solid network infrastructure between branches became a priority.

At the time of the merger, Valley Bank was running a Frame Relay solution among its respective branches while Liberty National Bank was networked to its other branch by way of a VPN solution. After visiting with parties from both banks about their plans for future growth and added services, it was clear that these seven branches would require an upgrade to a solution that would better fit their needs now and in the future.

The Solution

SDN Communications recommended Multi Protocol Label Switching (MPLS) to connect the two Iowa-based Liberty National Bank branches to the five South Dakota-based Valley Bank branches. Because MPLS works as a translator for all methods of transport, it gave the staff the ability to choose greater bandwidths (5 Mbps of Ethernet) at the locations in Sioux City and in Sioux Falls while leaving the smaller branches at a T1 Dedicated Private Line level. The freedom to customize each branch's bandwidth cut down on monthly expenses without giving up



efficiency at the larger branches. In addition to customizing bandwidth, MPLS offers the bank future opportunities to implement Voice Over IP (VoIP) solutions. By adding Quality of Service (QoS) across the entire MPLS network, the banks can prioritize voice traffic to ensure clarity.

The Benefits

MPLS will allow Liberty National Bank to grow in the future. With the help of SDN's Ethernet or a Dedicated Private T1 Line, Liberty National can bring any new location into its existing MPLS infrastructure. As existing branches add services and the need for bandwidth increases, MPLS will allow Liberty National Bank to increase

bandwidth on a site-by-site basis. As VoIP and other important applications are implemented, QoS will ensure packets are delivered in order and in the time frame needed.



The sales and support staff from SDN went out of their way to ensure our MPLS network was functional in time for our aggressive merger date; even going as far as assisting with our internal network configuration. The reliability and friendliness of their staff has made it a pleasure to do business with SDN.



-Mark Plantenberg, IT Manager
Liberty National Bank

