



SD Army National Guard Boosts Bandwidth

SDN Communications Helps the South Dakota Army National Guard Improve Efficiency and Integration

The Challenge

With 42 different locations, The South Dakota Army National Guard (SDARNG) suffered from bandwidth problems. Each outpost location used applications and voice solutions that needed additional bandwidth to operate the voice solution efficiently. The existing network had limitations that would not allow for expansion.

The Solution

SDN Communications recommended Multi Protocol Label Switching as a solution. MPLS allowed the SDARNG to utilize Quality of Service (QoS) and the inherent, full meshing to safely connect all 42 locations into one large Wide Area Network. All applications and locations now seamlessly connect and run smoothly with significant QoS improvements.

At the main site, Camp Rapid in Rapid City, SD, SDN installed a 100 Mbps Ethernet connection. This allowed all of the data from the outlying locations to return to the main data center, at the desired speed, where they could extract the much needed information to keep the individual locations running smoothly.

The Benefits

With the ever-growing requirements the SDARNG will see in the future, the MPLS solution allows the National Guard to grow



its bandwidth needs on a site-by-site basis. For major sites where training exercises are conducted, the SDARNG has the option to increase bandwidth for the specific training period and site and then turn it back down for the rest of the year. This feature would not have been possible with SDARNG's previous network infrastructure.

SDN will not only help SDARNG's fulltime members stay online, but also benefit the

thousands of guard members that arrive on weekends. Members depend on this network to access and share data and coordinate exercises and trainings.

“SDN worked with our network techs and came up with a plan and helped us implement it. The customer service support at the NOC has been excellent. The help we receive is courteous, expedient and professional.”

- CW3 John Gregor, SDARNG

worked directly with the SDARNG technical staff, making the conversion from the prior network to the MPLS Network seamless.

