



Mining Construction Case Study



“The safety of our employees in isolated work areas was of paramount importance to Albian in our requirement for an in-building coverage solution. The cost was insignificant compared to the safety issue, and still remains insignificant given the reduction in nuisance value and the ability to now have onsite communication.”

Ian Parkinson
IT, Plant Operations
Albian Sands Energy

“In our role as wireless communication solution provider to Albian Sands Energy, we consulted on the coverage problem, undertook a technical study and were able to provide the proper solution by having Spotwave in our tool kit.”

Wayne Taylor
Vice President of Business Development
Tridon Communications

The Customer - Albian Sands Energy

Albian Sands Energy Inc. operates the Muskeg River Mine, located north of Fort McMurray in Alberta. The processed deposits mined at this site are shipped via pipeline to the Scotford Upgrader. Both facilities comprise the Athabasca Oil Sands Project, a joint venture of Shell Canada Limited, Chevron Canada Limited (a wholly owned subsidiary of Chevron Texaco Corp.) and Western Oil Sands Inc.

The Challenge

Communications within and between the various project locations was an issue, especially as it involved the safety of employees located in remote work areas. One location was 15 miles from the main facility. Another was located 100 feet underground and surrounded by thick concrete walls which reinforced the mechanical equipment work area. The third location was a building dominated by facilities housing and processing equipment, and was located in the shadow of the communication tower.

The Solution

A site evaluation was conducted at each of the project locations to determine the best solution. It was determined that only one SpotCell® 100 indoor coverage system would need to be installed at each of the three sites. Given the industrial nature of the facilities, all three deployments were located out of reach to avoid being damaged by the movement of people or machinery.

The Results

Albian reported that the installation was not only quick and easy, but the results were immediate. Field personnel in operations and maintenance experienced reliable wireless communications both within and between sites, which provided a boost to their overall efficiency. The Spotwave solution also added peace of mind for employees located in isolated work areas.



For more information on Spotwave and our full line of indoor wireless coverage solutions, please visit our Web site at:

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