

Cable AML News

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TV ZAC EXPANSION DOUBLES MMDS NETWORK COVERAGE

MMDS operator TV ZAC, has just expanded its network coverage area to deliver multichannel video to all major urban centers in the State of Zacatecas (North-Central Mexico) and surrounding rural areas.

The expansion plan has involved the installation of new transmitters in some cities and adding several repeater stations strategically located to receive signals from the main transmission facilities in Fresnillo and the capital Zacatecas.

At Fresnillo, a 1000 Watt transmitter was installed recently to cover the city and nearby rural areas with significant demand. A 100 Watt repeater in Cañitas

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TV Zac employees Diego Camarillo, Eva Rodriguez and Gerardo Roldan next to the Fresnillo 1000 watt MMDS Transmitter

HITRON INSTALLS WIRELESS INTERNET SYSTEM

Following a successful upgrade of an analog MMDS system to digital, HITRON Ltd. has successfully launched an integrated Wireless Internet System.

The new system allows HITRON to offer high speed Internet service to the same footprint of TV subscribers served by the existing digital MMDS system, using the existing transmitter and repeaters.

The system upgrade involved integrating the Base Station DOCSIS equipment to the existing transmitters and implementing an upstream return path.

Subscribers have the option of using two-way transceivers allowing for simultaneous digital TV and wire-

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Upstream Bi-directional Repeater Installation at one of Hitron's repeater sites

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GALAPAGOS GETS NEW MMDS SYSTEM

A new MMDS system has been designed, procured and installed by Cable Zar on Santa Cruz Island, one of the Galapagos Islands (Ecuador). The Islands were made famous when Charles Darwin, a young naturalist on the H.M.S Beagle, visited them for five weeks in 1835. The islands are now a major tourist destination in Ecuador.

The MMDS system, which is powered by Cable AML's broadband 250 Watt transmitter, provides multichannel TV subscription service to an area of more than 700 square kilometers using 31 analog signals. The transmitter is digital-ready in anticipation of converting the system to digital in the future.

According to Holger Velastegui, owner of Cable Zar, "The system was installed in very little time and has been working perfectly since day one. In less than 6 months we have more than 500 subscribers and the



Technicians from Cable Zar finish installation of the MMDS transmitter in Galapagos, Ecuador

number continues to increase at a high rate. We are extremely pleased with the ease of installation of the system, as well as the excellent quality of the signals provide to our customers."

MULTISEÑAL IN MONTEVIDEO BEGINS MIGRATION FROM ANALOG TO DIGITAL MMDS

Multiseñal, the largest MMDS operator in Uruguay, has just started its MMDS digital transmission. The company has been operating an MMDS system for 15 years in Montevideo, capital of Uruguay, and in the adjacent urban and rural areas.

The system has been transmitting 15 analog channels and is now adding three digital carriers with up to 12 TV programs in each 64 QAM transport stream.

The system upgrade has been implemented by transmitting the digital signals via a broadband transmitter from Cable AML, which complements the existing bank of channelized analog transmitters.

The transition from analog to digital has been initiated by offering a package of 33 digital programs to the same subscriber base, while continuing transmission of the same package of 15 analog channels.

The robustness of the digital signal transmitted al-

lowed a large number of customers to make the switch from analogue to an auto-installed digital set top box. Customers picked up the digital STB and connected it themselves. This enabled a fast and inexpensive way to swap boxes.

According to Fernando Heredia, Project Engineer, "The transition took place smoothly as the Cable AML transmitter is very easy to connect and operate. Subscribers are now enjoying excellent image quality and a much wider range of options programming."



Ing. Javier Montagne, Claudio Bozzo and Fernando Heredia following installation of the new broadband transmitter.

DOCSIS WIRELESS SYSTEM UPGRADES BASE STATION TRANSMITTER

A new Base Station Transmitter was installed by INTERCOM to power the wireless Internet system in San Miguel, El Salvador.

San Miguel is the second most important city after the capital, San Salvador. With a population in excess of 200,000 people, it is located 138 km east of the capital and it is also the capital of the Department of San Miguel.

INTERCOM was the first company to install and operate a broadband wireless system in Central America. The wireless DOCSIS system has been in continuous operation in El Salvador since 2002.



According to Miguel Mata, INTERCOM Operations Manager in El Salvador, "The Cable AML transmitter was installed the same day it was received and has been working perfectly since day one."

Miguel Mata, Operations Manager of INTERCOM, with the new Base Station Transmitter



Antenna tower at Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea



ABOVE: Hitron technicians install antenna at a customer site.



RIGHT: Repeater Site Installation

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less Internet service in remote areas of Papua New Guinea.

It was particularly important to HITRON to be able to use existing MMDS repeater sites and infrastructure because of the high cost of acquiring, commissioning and maintaining repeater sites in remote locations.

According to Greg Morgan, VP of Engineering at Hitron, "The modular design approach proposed by Cable AML for our system has allowed us to upgrade with minimum disruption of service to our customers while modernizing our wireless plant and adding significant revenue potential."

TV ZAC cont. from front cover...

and a 250 Watt repeater in Villa de Cos expanded coverage of the main transmitter to important nearby communities. Another 100 Watt repeater covers the town of Rancho Grande, where a large number of new users have access to multichannel TV programming for the first time thanks to the system designed by Cable AML.

The expansion plan included upgrading the main Zacatecas transmitter to 500 Watts to cover the capital city and strategically located repeaters nearby.

A new 250 Watt repeater in Santa

Monica has been installed to provide coverage in the Western part of the state. A new transmitter was installed in the city of Monte Escobedo to provide coverage to the entire urban area. Similarly, a new 250 Watt transmitter has been installed in Valparaiso at the confluence of Durango, Zacatecas, Jalisco and Nayarit, where two repeaters (one at Lobatos and one at San Mateo) serve adjacent communities and the surrounding semi-rural areas.

With the latest expansion, TV ZAC provides coverage in all the main cities and towns in the state of Zacatecas. Says Lic. Francisco

Aguirre, general manager of TV ZAC: "The expansion of the system was conducted quickly and efficiently, mainly due to the good performance of the Cable AML equipment and ease of installation."

Transmitter installation at Monte Escobedo, Zacatecas, Mexico



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