



EnGenius Outdoor Wireless Access Point Deploys Quickly to Deliver Long-Range, Reliable Connectivity to Restore Operations after Devastating Fire

Brunelle's Marina and Dockside Restaurant



Located on the banks of the Connecticut River in South Hadley, Massachusetts, Brunelle's Marina and Dockside Restaurant has served the local community for over 50 years. Brunelle's Marina offers a full range of services for all seasons including boat docking, service and storage. The Dockside Restaurant offers casual dining with panoramic views of the Connecticut River and the Holyoke Range. In addition to the marina services, Brunelle's also operates Lady Bea Cruises, a 53-foot climate-controlled cruise boat that is used for daily cruises, private charters, and entertainment cruises. The property also hosts special events under an event tent during the summer and early fall.

In July 2013, Brunelle's suffered a devastating fire that completely destroyed the building that housed the Dockside Restaurant, boat sales showroom, and boat repair shop.

The Need: A Reliable Wireless Network Solution to Restore Operations

While the building was a total loss, Brunelle's Marina needed to continue to support operations in their active marina, their riverboat cruises, and banquets that were already scheduled to be held in their outside tent facility. The next business day, a construction trailer was brought in and installed next to the destroyed building to serve as the interim office. However, moving the existing phone lines and broadband Internet connection to the trailer proved to be problematic as it was estimated that it would take 30 days to move connectivity to the trailer.



Photo credit: The Republican / Don Treeger

Brunelle's turned to Normandeau Technologies, a provider of customized premised-based and hosted IP telephone systems and structured network cabling solutions based in West Springfield, Massachusetts, to deploy a solution to restore the critical communications and broadband Internet infrastructure to their operations.

The Solution: EnGenius ENH500 High-Powered, Long Range 5 GHz Wireless N300 Outdoor Client Bridge

Normandeu Technologies quickly deployed a cellular access point and connected it to their EmbraceIP hosted VoIP system to bring Brunelle's main telephone number to the trailer. However, to provide phone extensions to other areas of the property required a reliable, long-range wireless bridge. Normandeu chose to deploy the EnGenius ENH500 5GHz Wireless N300 Outdoor Client Bridge. "We needed an outdoor bridge that delivered a combination of performance, reliability, durability, and affordability, and the ENH500 was the ideal solution," explained Brett Normandeu, President of Normandeu Technologies, Inc.



The ENH500 is a high-speed long-range outdoor 802.11n wireless access point/bridge that operates on the 5 GHz band to deliver data rates of up to 300Mbps over distances up to one mile. The PoE-enabled bridge, which incorporates two Fast Ethernet ports for connectivity to the network backbone and client devices such as IP cameras, is housed in an IP55 waterproof housing for deployment in harsh outdoor environments.

By deploying the single ENH500 unit, Normandeu was able to provide VoIP extensions to the riverboat ticket booth and the banquet tent. The fast data connection was also used to support other critical applications such as Point-of-Sale and Internet access to the remote locations.

The Results: Reliable Wireless Connectivity Restores Communication and Internet Access



Photo credit: (The Republican / John Suchocki)

Through deployment of the EnGenius ENH500, along with the cellular access point and VoIP system, Normandeu Technologies quickly restored critical communication and data infrastructures to Brunelle's badly-damaged property.

The combination of long range, high speed and the durable weather-resistant form factor of the ENH500 enabled Brunelle's to provide telephone extensions and high-speed data connectivity to the trailer and all of their remote locations. Offering an industry-leading

price-to-performance ratio, the ENH500 was the ideal wireless networking solution delivering the performance required to simultaneously support bandwidth-intensive VoIP and data-based applications at an affordable price point.

Currently under construction, the new Brunelle's building, including the new Dockside Restaurant, is scheduled to re-open in Spring 2014, and will be using EnGenius wireless access points to provide WiFi access throughout the marina.