Water utilities integrator simplifies inventory, eases implementation, and increases uptime with Radioline

Summary

• A system integrator wanted to simplify the wireless SCADA system for one of its wastewater customers
• Phoenix Contact’s Radioline was easy to install in the necessary configurations
• Additionally, by installing the proper power supplies and surge protection, HTM increased uptime for its customer

Customer Profile

HTM Sales in Omaha, Nebraska, implements SCADA systems to interconnect pumping stations.

Challenge: Multiple antennas and complicated installation

Initially, HTM used Phoenix Contact wireless module pairs that required multiple antennas at the SCADA location. Due to the configuration of these radio pairs, sometimes it was necessary to install more than one system. This required multiple antennas in one small location. Their second iteration used Phoenix Contact multipoint-to-point radios that eliminated the need to have multiple antennas at the SCADA location, but were complicated by the use of hop-keys. HTM wanted to find a simpler solution.

Solution: Easy wireless platform

For an installation in McCook, Nebraska, HTM implemented a solution using Phoenix Contact power supplies, surge protection, and Radioline modules.

Results: Increased uptime and simplified inventory

The Type 3 surge protection for power supplies and proper coax surge protection for antennas increased uptime. By properly protecting their system, HTM stopped losing wireless modules to transient strikes, and additionally benefited from the associated five-year comprehensive warranty.

Inventory was simplified two ways. First, HTM no longer has to keep track of the hop-keys necessary for the programming of each site/wireless module. Secondly, Radioline can function as a master, slave, or repeater, so they avoid the need to stock additional modules.
Implementation was also simplified in two ways. First, Radioline had the ability to download the network settings to all spokes from the master. Second, Radioline could communicate point-to-point and point-to-multipoint, as opposed to having two different parts — one for point-to-point and one for multipoint-to-point.

Radioline can act as a master, slave, or repeater, so it cuts down on the inventory costs. Also, by properly protecting their system from surges, HTM stopped losing wireless modules to transient strikes and benefits from the five-year warranty.