

## 4.9 GHZ PUBLIC SAFETY

# DOUGLAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, NEVADA

PROVIDING COORDIANATED, MULTI-AGENCY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS.

### Need: Emergency Communications

Douglas County Communications/9-1-1 is a consolidated emergency communications center located in Minden, Nevada and is responsible for all emergency and non-emergency dispatch services in Douglas County, Nevada and Alpine County, California. It serves as a multi-agency center that provides dispatching for police, fire and medical services from a single coordinated point.

### Application: Video Monitoring

Early in the planning cycle, Douglas County Communication decided to take advantage of the newly created 4.9 GHz licensed band, a spectrum band only accessible to government agencies involved in providing public safety and security. As the regional coordinator, Douglas County staff had ready access to a license for their own public safety purposes. Unlike the license-exempt bands in 2.4 and 5.8 GHz, the 4.9 GHz public safety band is very clean and devoid of interference from widespread, unregulated usage including wireless ISPs.

Being a provider of critical emergency dispatches, Douglas County Communications now has the link availability/reliability necessary for their highly critical applications, without worry of the general public's access to the band and resulting risk of link degradation.

### Implementation at Intersections

In December of 2005, Solectek 5.8 GHz radios, sold under the AirStream brand of Tessco Technologies, were installed at intersections in South Lake Tahoe. The original use of video surveillance cameras was to monitor the large and rowdy groups of people roaming between casinos on New Years Eve. Since then, the usage has evolved into a "Traffic Watch" program for the Sheriff's department.

Video signals gathered from cameras at intersections are backhauled to the Sheriff's office. In some cases, multiple camera signals were gathered



Solectek radios mounted on top of Horizon Casino building, pointed to the Sheriff's office. The street seen below is Highway 50, South Lake Tahoe Blvd, where the cameras are being deployed.

**"We were aware of the accident in the intersection before it was called in. The Solectek radio is our new standard."**

**Jim Whalen,  
Radio Technician,  
Douglas County Communications**

**SOLECTEK**

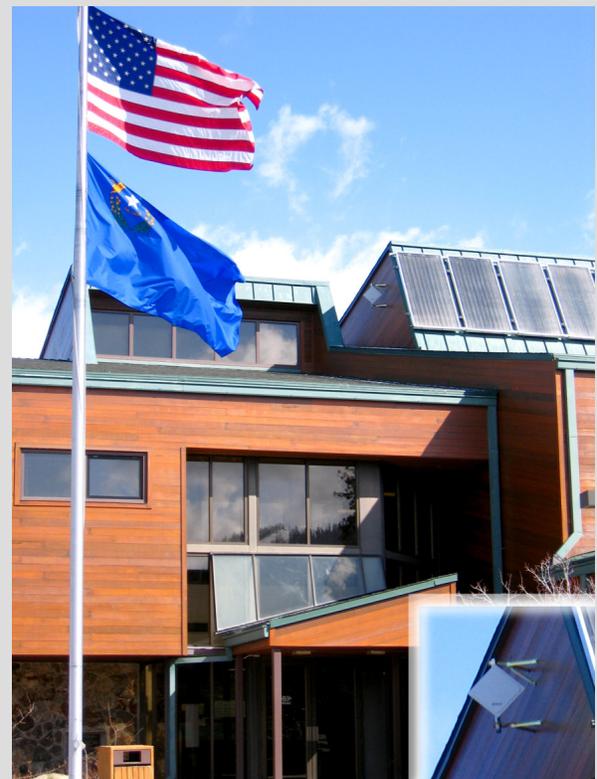
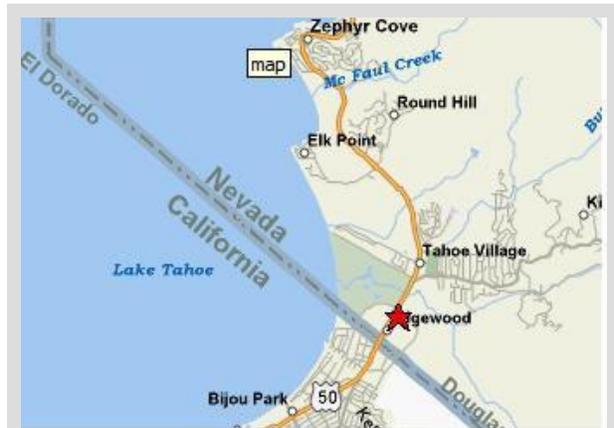
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In some cases, multiple camera signals were gathered from pre-existing Wi-Fi networks before being aggregated and transported by Solectek radios.

### **Future Expansions**

Douglas County is looking to expand this street signal arrangement all along Highway 50, the main road running along the shore of Lake Tahoe, as shown in the map (right). The Sheriff's office, located in Stateline, Nevada, will be used as one of the operations centers.

There is also a plan to extend the wireless links to other, remote offices to bring them under a single network, supplying both VoIP and network access to all groups.



**The Sheriff's office located in Stateline, NV. The radio unit is mounted near the top of the building (shown magnified in bottom right)**

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