

Project

Telstra-DAS Upgrade

Client

Glenelg Shire; Portland Airport

Location

Portland, Victoria

Outcome

Nextivity G41 Repeaters

Portland Airport

Portland, VIC

Portland Airport serves as a key gateway to major Australian tourist attractions like the Great Ocean Road, Grampians National Park, Coonawarra wine region, and Limestone Coast. At its peak, handling over 20,000 passengers annually.

The Project

In 2023, Portland Airport, a vital service for people in the western Victorian region, requiring our telecommunication expertise for a major upgrade project. Our role was to upgrade their a rural airport operations area from an outdated Telstra 3G system to a modern Telstra 5G LTE-capable system, ensuring seamless coverage across the operations office and lounge areas.

Following the desktop analysis of the local cell environment, we determined that Nextivity's G41 solution was ideal for this complex project. The repeater technology made light work of the area, even given the distance to the local Telstra telecommuncaitions tower.

The Challenges

Selecting the local telecommunications cell tower proved challenging. With limited options and zero visibility of macro cells due to the airport's rural location, the primary issue was that the airport staff heavily relied on the existing 3G repeater system for communication. This necessitated a swift transition to the new 4G LTE system.

This situation presented two distinct problems: ensuring minimal disruption to airport operations during the switchover and overcoming the technical difficulties associated with selecting an appropriate donor macro cell.

The Solution

Using our advanced equipment, we easily identified the best macrocell, even in situations where most towers weren't visible, thanks to the precision of our technicians operating the VIAVI ONA800. This made cell tower selection incredibly straightforward, ensuring excellent connectivity for Portland Airport.

The preassembly and preconfiguration of the equipment made installing the new headend unit exceptionally simple. This ensured that Portland Airport's daily operations were not disrupted and eliminated the need for enormous amount of technicians on site.

Success

Portland Airport's new Nextivity repeater system was a success, ensuring robust connectivity and minimising disruptions to the critical services this aiport provides. This upgrade has been praised by airport staff for enhancing efficiency and reliability, especially during peak holiday periods. Our commitment to excellence in communication infrastructure sets new standards, fostering a safer and more efficient environment.

Portland Airport being one of the 5 certified airports in Victoria, it was imperative that operations staff have reliable mobile phone connectivity. This enhancement not only meets but exceeds these critical needs, demonstrating our dedication to maintaining high operational standards at Portland Airport.

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earthandenergy.com.au
 accounts@earthandenergy.com.au

