



National Bank of Abu Dhabi

The National Bank of Abu Dhabi (stock code: NBAD) was incorporated in 1968 and offers a wide variety of financial services targeting all segments of the consumer and corporate markets. To date, the Bank has a network of more than 115 branches and 460 ATMS in the UAE. NBAD provides online account access through Internet banking, utilise an SMS-based payment service, and offer personalised customer support through its 24-hour call centre. The Bank's overseas network covers 12 countries on four continents and has nearly 50 branches and 60 ATMs outside the UAE.



As the Bank's network needs evolved, the antiquated free space optics-based infrastructure in place could no longer meet capacity requirements. Network traffic experienced bottlenecks and disruptions due to sandstorms and fog, preventing the Bank's customers from conducting business. This was especially problematic for the stock exchange, where time-sensitive financial transactions require a secure and reliable connection. Majed Salah, group leader of network services at the National Bank of Abu Dhabi, needed a solution that would always be available, have enough bandwidth to meet current and future needs and — given the sensitive nature of the data passing over the network — have the highest level of security available.



The Bank turned to Prologix Distribution, the Middle East's leading supplier of communications solutions, to assist in identifying a new system. Several options were considered, including leasing fibre services, which proved cost prohibitive — with recurring charges at AED 50,000 per month. Prologix chose to deploy several BridgeWave AR80-AES gigabit wireless links for their ability to deliver carrier-grade network performance at a fraction of the cost of leasing fibre services. With built-in 256-bit AES data encryption, the Bank has confidence in the secure transmission of its financial transactions.

The wireless links took just days to install and activate, greatly improving The National Bank of Abu Dhabi's network performance. The AR80-AES links provide a highly reliable, cost-effective, secure, future-proof solution to grow with the Bank's networking needs.

“The time-sensitive nature of the information being passed over our network requires a very reliable connection with high availability. BridgeWave's wireless millimeter wave solutions were installed quickly and require very little maintenance, while providing perfect performance.”

- Majed Salah
Group Leader of Network Services
National Bank of Abu Dhabi

CHALLENGES:

- Replace capacity-constrained free space optics system with highly secure, reliable, GigE capacity system
- Find a cost-effective solution capable of operating flawlessly during periods of inclement weather, including sandstorms and fog

BRIDGEWAVE SOLUTION:

- AR80-AES gigabit wireless links

BENEFITS:

- AES encryption and narrow antenna beam widths ensure the highest level of security
- Fibre-equivalent GigE performance at a fraction of the cost of leasing fibre

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