



## Monroe County, New York

### SmartSwitches Deliver High-Performance ATM Connectivity Customer Profile

Located in upstate New York, Monroe County is comprised of 19 towns, 10 villages and the City of Rochester, with a combined population of approximately one million. When exploring possible solutions to expand and improve its county-wide network, the county evaluated several options and vendors before deciding on Enterasys' comprehensive ATM solutions. Now, Monroe County is realizing cost savings, increased efficiency and a higher overall quality of living through its new ATM network from Enterasys.

#### Performance, Price, and Protection for the Future

"There were several credible vendors who had pieces of the solution," says the county's Manager of Technical Support, Jeff Carleton. "But we wanted proof of concept—something to connect ATM with FDDI and Ethernet that was also ready to ship." The Monroe County evaluation committee found just what it was looking for in Enterasys' modular SmartSwitches. "As far as available technology, price and local service, everything favored Enterasys, hands-down."

Monroe County chose the 14-slot SmartSwitch 9000 for its performance and for mainframe connectivity, installing four of these powerful data center switches in key areas of the network, including one in the County Office Building, the network hub. Single mode fiber connections link the four backbone switches to various workgroups, where Enterasys' SmartSwitch 2200 Workgroup Switch and SmartSwitch 2110 Fast Ethernet MicroLAN Switch have been implemented to deliver 10/100 Mbps to the desktop.

The county is also considering implementing a modular, 10 Gbps SmartSwitch 6000, and then collapsing another backbone onto that switch. "The performance levels and price of this switch are major attractions," says Monroe County's Telecommunications Coordinator Earl Hall.

SmartSwitch 9A000 and 9A100 ATM modules are being used in the 9000 chassis to deliver 2.5 Gbps switching and full line-rate performance to the network. The combination of the 9A000 and 9A100 modules in the data center facilitates easy integration of ATM and LAN technologies, and allows Monroe to gradually migrate their existing FDDI network to ATM and future technologies, all while keeping everyone connected. Thanks to the modularity of the SmartSwitch solution, network growth and development are as easy as swapping modules.

"That's a very attractive thing about Enterasys—you don't have to forklift upgrade every time," says Hall. "The modular approach to their architecture, and the intelligence on each board allows us to add users without disturbing the switch fabric. Each has its own processor, its own speeds and feeds, and can be added without disturbing the local area network at all."

The establishment of a county-wide ATM network is resulting in significant cost savings. Rather than transferring information via leased lines, the county is able to use its ATM network to transport voice, video and data resources. Savings are achieved in day-to-day operations, through reduced capital equipment expenditures and simplified operations. Dollars that once went to the telephone companies for usage or equipment charges, maintenance and service fees are now being redirected and used to improve the county's infrastructure and help elevate the standard of living for everyone in the community.

#### Better Living through Networking

In addition to saving money, Monroe County's network is working to improve safety and security for county employees and entire communities. For example, real-time video conferencing between prisons and the local courts—made possible by the speed and guaranteed quality of service of Enterasys' ATM SmartSwitches—will virtually eliminate the need to shuttle prisoners between facilities, saving time and more importantly, eliminating the security risks associating with transporting dangerous criminals.

Enterasys' SmartSwitches are also delivering the bandwidth, reliability and quality of service required for such bandwidth-intensive applications as the County of Monroe's MORIS project. Through this program, digitized mugshots and fingerprints can be collected at the Sheriff's Department and shared with other police stations county-wide, thanks to the SmartSwitch

2500 ATM Workgroup Switch, which delivers the performance required of the most demanding applications. The MORIS project enables county offices to more efficiently gather and share information, taking advantage of networked records and resources, and eliminates the need to physically sort through tens of thousands of paper files. Through this ATM network, police agencies within the county can share both equipment and information, resulting in significant cost savings.

The network also makes satellite images and air photos available to environmental officials to help them determine the potential impact of natural disasters and environmental alterations such as construction projects. Through the county's Geographic Information System (GIS), still in its early stages, digitized photos will be used to examine the ramifications of a new highway through the county, or the possible effects of a flood. Steps can then be taken to prevent any damage or destruction that may result.

Monroe County's Department of Environmental Services is deploying fiber optics in the county's water pipes, to enable them to identify problem areas remotely, rather than dispatching an individual to examine every pipe to find the source of trouble. "They are using the ATM pipe to look at problems" says Carleton. "This is a 7x24 operation, and the ATM network will give us the timely, accurate information we need." Deploying ATM in the pipes saves the county money, and ensures that interruptions to the county's water supply are resolved as quickly as possible.

These applications, and the equipment supporting them, are shared by departments throughout the county. As a result, the departments are able to pool their resources, enabling new tools and applications to be added that might otherwise be economically unfeasible. These savings translate into saved tax dollars, which can be allocated to other areas of community improvement.

### **Support for the Future**

Right now, about 80 percent of county-employed personal computer users are tied into the network, and the Department of Information Services plans eventually to get everyone connected. Add them to the many home users already taking advantage of on-line resources, and Monroe County has truly succeeded in bringing the benefits of ATM to its residents.

## Contact Us

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