Tek-Hut and DragonWave Advancing Education with State-of-the-Art Broadband Network

**BACKGROUND**

**Customer:**
- Idaho school districts

**DragonWave Partner:**
- Tek-Hut

**Application:**
- High capacity site connectivity for 27 Idaho K-12 school districts.

**DragonWave Products:**
- Horizon Compact+
- Horizon Quantum

**CHALLENGE**

After the fallout of the IEN, several Idaho school districts were under intense pressure to find an alternative solution to offer high capacity internet access and a host of new educational tools and applications including distance learning, video conferencing and voice. This required a highly scalable and robust network; compromising on an inferior solution was not an option.

Looking for a partner who could provide a turnkey solution, many of Idaho’s K-12 school districts, including the Boise Independent School district, turned to Tek-Hut, a trusted partner and provider of technology and services for education.

The goal of replacing a fiber-based service in a matter of a few months, while providing equal or better capacity and reliability was a tall order, but Tek-Hut exceeded expectations by deploying a carrier-grade, multi-gigabit wireless solution from DragonWave. By adopting the latest in wireless backhaul technology, Tek-Hut was able to simultaneously increase existing capacity while dramatically reducing recurring costs.

“Leading with a DragonWave solution, Tek-Hut took us from a low capacity mixed media (fiber & wireless) WAN network to a high speed, wireless microwave network in less than 2 months on budget and ahead of schedule. We realized bandwidth increases up to 6600% and an amazing cost savings of 57%. While we get more bandwidth and increased reliability between our sites, we also get the best customer service you could ask for with fast, thorough and friendly technicians. Choosing Tek-Hut and DragonWave is one of the best business decisions I have ever made.”

- Ken Loftus, Director of Technology, Emmett School District
“Because of the extremely tight timelines, we needed a technology solution that could be deployed quickly yet provide all the capacity to support current and future applications. DragonWave’s packet microwave solution has allowed us to offer 70% more capacity than existing leased lines services at a fraction of the cost, resulting in the best possible outcome for the school districts, the state and most importantly, the students.”

- Nate Bondelid, Owner, Tek-Hut

**Solution**

Tek-Hut replaced 90% of the leased fiber services with DragonWave’s Horizon Compact+ and Horizon Quantum packet microwave systems, delivering multi-gigabit capacity to the schools.

The new broadband network offers several key advantages:

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<th>Rapid Deployment</th>
<th>• The entire network, connecting 27 school districts, was deployed in 90 days.</th>
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| Multi-Gigabit Capacity | • Up to 4 Gbps capacity per site, enabling new high bandwidth learning applications  
• Future “zero-touch” scalability with Bandwidth Accelerator payload compression |
| High Reliability | • DragonWave’s packet microwave systems can be engineered to deliver 99.999% availability |
| Lowest total cost of ownership | • The DragonWave solution drove a $50,000 per month reduction in service cost, while providing 70% more capacity. |

**Success Story**

Tek-Hut successfully connected 27 rural School Districts, including the Boise Independent School District, second largest K-12 school system in Idaho, with a fully managed, high performance private network. The DragonWave solution deployed by Tek-Hut has resulted in $50,000 in monthly savings while offering 70% more capacity than leased services.

Tek-Hut, now the largest provider of internet service provider for education in Idaho, continues to expand the network and boost capacity to meet the surging bandwidth demand across the school districts.