

Preventing Forest Fires in Portugal

Forest fires are one of the biggest problems in Portugal during the summer months, when temperatures climb. Fires were regularly destroying forest, homes and other property, and claiming lives.

Stratex Networks recently teamed up with INOV (www.inov.pt), a producer of a novel integrated Video Surveillance system, known as CYCLOPE™, to provide a network of remote video-based monitoring stations throughout Portugal's National Parks, to protect fauna and flora, and to help prevent forest fires.



INOVO, who designed and implemented the project, developed CICLOPE as a system for the remote surveillance and monitoring of wide-area landscapes.

CICLOPE provides 24 hour surveillance, using infrared and visible spectrum cameras that are able to operate in all weather conditions. The system is able to provide effective monitoring in inhospitable and inaccessible areas, which would be impractical using manned observation sites, at an extremely effective cost per square kilometer of coverage.



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Stratex Networks provided the Eclipse nodal wireless system to provide connectivity between remote observation sites and the central control room. The Eclipse Liquid Bandwidth capability provided Ethernet-based backhaul of video, alarm and telemetry data.

Eclipse provides an efficient long-distance backbone for securely connecting the platforms over difficult terrain where alternative methods of transport, such as leased lines or fiber, are not available.

The installed equipment is kept to a minimum due to the Eclipse nodal capability, enabling multiple radio links to be supported from a single Intelligent Node Unit. This minimizes power consumption for remote unmanned sites to reduce costly solar power requirements.

The system diagram shows a network optimized to deliver Ethernet connections to unmanned video camera platforms. Each platform uses a 2 Mbps Ethernet connection to support video and infrared cameras with point and zoom capabilities.

Stratex Networks was very pleased to be able to provide, in partnership with INOVO, such an important and advanced monitoring system to provide protection for Portugal's National Parks.

