

Fast three-month deployment helps Vodafone Spain cut transport leased-lined costs by 30 percent

Nokia Siemens
Networks



At the end of 2008, Vodafone Spain faced a tough deadline.

If it could deploy a new metropolitan optical transport network by April 2009 it would be able to cut its costs by cancelling many leased line contracts. Despite many difficulties along the way, Nokia Siemens Networks completed the project on time.

In markets across the world, phenomenal growth in data traffic is putting pressure on the capacity of transport networks. Like many communications service providers (CSP), Vodafone Spain used multiple leased lines, but scaling up capacity by adding more leased lines would lead to an unsustainable increase in operational costs.

To break the link between capacity and cost, Vodafone Spain aimed to deploy its own nationwide metropolitan optical transmission infrastructure, giving it the capability to meet growing traffic demand and overcome competitive pres-

ures for lower data costs. Such a transport network would also give Vodafone Spain the flexibility to react quickly to fast-changing market demands.

Vodafone Spain faced an additional pressure. It needed to find a solution extremely quickly before April 2009, when the contracts for hundreds of existing leased lines were due for renewal. When the project was awarded to Nokia Siemens Networks, just three months were left for deployment before the leased lines renewal date.

„Nokia Siemens Networks has deployed a DWDM technology solution for Vodafone Spain’s Access Network, meeting very demanding technical and implementation requirements. In approximately three months, 300 nodes were deployed, integrated and put into commercial operation. The implementation of this project required extremely detailed coordination between Nokia Siemens Networks and our implementation team. The project was been accomplished to our satisfaction.”

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Network Director, VF Spain



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Rapid roll out achieved through teamwork

Nokia Siemens Networks deployed and integrated a nationwide metropolitan backhaul solution based on its hiT7300 Multi Reach Dense Wavelength Division Multiplexing (DWDM) system. We delivered a complete package encompassing planning, design, delivery, implementation, integration, optimization and project management.

The technology behind the deployment was already proven for Vodafone Spain, which has been running two metro-core amplified hiT7300 rings in Madrid and Barcelona for almost two years without major problems.

The latest project involved the deployment and integration of more than 300 sites, and was achieved in less than three months, just half the time that such a project would conventionally require. The network is currently being expanded throughout 2009 and into 2010 with the deployment of about a further 400 nodes.

The key to such a rapid deployment was the close cooperation between Nokia Siemens Networks and Vodafone Spain. Plus an open relationship built on absolute trust between the companies' teams. This gave Nokia Siemens Networks great flexibility in solving issues when they arose, enabling us to create 'work-arounds' to Vodafone Spain's satisfaction.

A key differentiator for Nokia Siemens Networks was the high level of local support for the project, eliminating potential delays that could be caused when liaising with technical departments on the other side of the world.

Lower costs, future-proof capability

On 31st March 2009, the connections to the final two nodes in the project were completed, meeting the project's tight deadline. This has enabled Vodafone Spain to eliminate the majority of its leased line contracts, saving the 15,000 euros cost of each line per year. This works out to a reduction in operational expenditure.

Currently just five or six channels are being used by each network ring, whereas the technology is capable of providing up to 40 channels. This gives Vodafone Spain huge scalability to meet future traffic growth with limited additional investment costs needed.

The new network also supports the transport of IP-based services, giving Vodafone Spain the flexibility to offer innovative new services and bring them to market quickly and cost effectively.

Challenges

- Rising data traffic called for an increase in transport capacity beyond what was economically feasible with leased lines
- Vodafone Spain needed to decouple cost from capacity in its transport network to achieve the flexibility and cost base needed to meet future demands
- An imminent deadline for leased line contract renewal left just three months to deploy a new nationwide transport network

Solutions

- A high capacity DWDM-based transport network to cope with foreseeable traffic growth trends
- Full network deployment with Nokia Siemens Networks taking responsibility for all project phases from initial design to commissioning
- The new network supports IP traffic, enabling Vodafone Spain to deploy advanced services to capture new business commissioning

Benefits

- The optical transport network provides huge capacity and flexibility to meet current traffic levels and future growth
- By eliminating leased lines Vodafone Spain has achieved reduction in its ongoing transport OPEX, regardless of traffic demand
- Network deployment in half the time normally needed, enabled Vodafone Spain to beat its critical leased line contract renewal deadline