

# Rajant Corporation Aids in Hurricane Katrina Relief Effort

## Rajant Supplies Relief Workers with Portable Networks to Speed Recovery Efforts



Having a communications system up and running immediately is crucial in creating an efficient and coordinated recovery effort. Rajant Corporation's BreadCrumb® Wireless Network is mobile and can be set up within minutes in virtually any environment. When operated with satellite based Internet connectivity, BreadCrumb® devices enable Internet access and VoIP communications to large areas and many users.

Rajant Corporation has taken an active role in aiding the relief efforts following the destruction of Hurricane Katrina. Jim Washington, President of Rajant Corporation and Barry McElroy, Director of Military sales traveled to Mississippi and Louisiana during the weeks following the hurricane with over \$100,000 worth of specialized BreadCrumb® equipment.

### Louisiana

In New Orleans, Louisiana, Rajant provided wireless connectivity for the first floor of Touro Hospital, one of New Orleans oldest hospitals and deemed a "Main Medical Priority" to reopen by the city's officials following Hurricane Katrina. The BreadCrumb® Network was able to provide wireless connectivity throughout the first floor of the hospital due to its ability to mesh and route around obstacles such as lead shielding. Installation of the wireless network, which consisted of five BreadCrumb® units and connection to the Internet, took less than 60 minutes from start to finish.

The hospital staff and patients were evacuated just prior to and during the hurricane. The IT infrastructure including servers and routers at the hospital were disconnected and moved to

higher ground before the hurricane struck to avoid water damage. Damage assessment revealed that the hospital took water in the basement disabling elevators, lost most of its medical supplies, lost commercial power and all communications.

The tactical network enabled the needed connectivity and allowed the IT department time to focus on troubleshooting their hospital network. The network bypassed the IT room and linked the satellite service directly to areas of wired infrastructure in several of the critical areas and created wireless access in all other target areas. This allowed senior staff to focus on restarting hospital operations and the preparation for the treatment of patients with the communications tools they needed. The BreadCrumb® network created connectivity to the emergency room, hospital administration stations, IT hub, and maintenance sections. Temporary Centers for Disease Control operations were established in a medical center building located one block away. Due to the superior range and meshing capabilities of the BreadCrumb® units, the CDC personnel were able to utilize the wireless network from their location as well.



Touro Hospital, in New Orleans, Louisiana

## Mississippi

In Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, Rajant provided rescue management teams with wireless access to the internet as well as VoIP and data coverage. The BreadCrumb® Networks have enabled the EMS, Highway Patrol, and Fire Department to send and receive emails, upload reports, and update activity blogs online.

The Naval Postgraduate School, Redline Communications, and Rajant created a Wide Area Network for the use of the city. This network consisted of a satellite uplink at Hancock Regional Medical Center with the WAN network extended using Redline equipment to multiple locations including the fire station and area schools. The user access at each point location was created by the Rajant BreadCrumb® Network. 50-75 users were able to utilize the online capabilities of voice and data transmittal at any given time.

A second BreadCrumb LAN extended the WiFi coverage of a satellite uplink provided by the Polk County, Florida emergency management workers. The Rajant BreadCrumb® products produced a portable, wireless network around the satellite uplink located in the parking lot of a local Wal-Mart. This wireless, meshed LAN provided extended coverage for the existing satellite communications in order to support the first response mission. The extended network provided the Polk County Sheriff's Department, HazMat, Florida Highway Patrol (FHP), and decontamination units the necessary connectivity to communications vehicles.

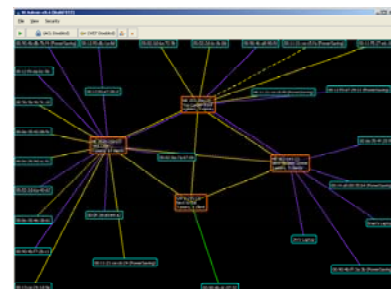
The staff at Rajant Corporation is honored to be able to provide a service in aiding the overall recovery plan for the states of Mississippi and Louisiana. The BreadCrumb® equipment used in Hurricane Katrina relief will remain in the south indefinitely or until returned by the relief effort personnel.



Barry McElroy placing BreadCrumb® on tower



Polk County Command Center in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi



BCAdmin Screenshot showing multiple clients on BreadCrumb® network

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