



Accudata Systems, Inc., helps MODEC International, LLC, succeed today and beyond

Cisco's Five Ways to Thrive: Preparing for the Upturn

To help companies keep pace with today's rapidly changing business environment, Cisco's Five Ways to Thrive initiative guides businesses to save funds to invest for the future, unlock employee potential, drive customer intimacy, outpace the competition, and transition to a borderless enterprise. In doing so, they're better positioned to thrive in this turbulent economy and emerge from it even stronger.



Situation

Founded in 1968, Tokyo-headquartered Mitsui Ocean Development & Engineering Co., Ltd., (MODEC) specializes in the engineering, procurement, construction, and installation of floating production systems for the offshore oil and gas industry. The approximately 1,500-person company has offices in Houston and Singapore, as well as regional offices in 10 countries.

In 2005, MODEC realized it required a highly available, redundant, scalable communications infrastructure that would provide the advanced services the company required to achieve its efficiency, productivity, and ROI goals. Additionally, this new solution needed to seamlessly integrate with the company's recently installed Microsoft Exchange Server environment.

Having worked with Houston-based Accudata Systems, Inc., previously, MODEC again turned to the company for a comprehensive network overhaul. Founded in 1982, the Cisco Premier Certified Partner with approximately 120 employees offered MODEC the experience and expertise the company sought.

Solution

Accudata Systems implemented a dynamic, high availability, globally scalable Cisco infrastructure, which provided the foundation for a fully meshed and highly redundant wide area network (WAN) using Dynamic VPN technology. This allows three of MODEC's corporate sites to function as disaster recovery offices, and gives each remote office—including the production floating vessels—redundant connectivity back to the corporate offices.

Accudata Systems also installed Cisco Unified Communications, empowering MODEC to send voice across its Dynamic VPN-based WAN, rather than using expensive point-to-point technology or long distance service. Accudata Systems then integrated Cisco Unified Communications Manager, Cisco Unity, and Cisco Unified MeetingPlace that allow employees worldwide to communicate where, when, and how they prefer.

Finally, Accudata Systems deployed Cisco's Adaptive Security Appliance (ASA) 5500 Series for intelligent threat defense and secure communications services.

Results

"By standardizing the entire communications infrastructure and centralizing its management, MODEC is able to more proficiently and economically maintain existing solutions and add new applications," says Ford Witherspoon, infrastructure practice manager, Accudata Systems. "Additionally, by using the Internet with Dynamic VPN technology for telecommunications and data, the entire organization is meshed, which provides network redundancy and allows for significant savings on global communications. The company can now deploy communications to new vessels more quickly and without complexity."

Ed Flavin, chief information officer, MODEC, says the new solution enables the company to communicate internally and with customers more effectively and efficiently than ever before.

"Whereas it used to take our engineers three or four weeks to share and approve drawings, we now have web meetings in which we share documents and make changes live in an hour or two," says Flavin. "This alone has added hundreds of thousands of dollars in man hour cost savings to our bottom line."

"Functionality like forwarding voicemails and emails to a single inbox and launching audio conferences directly from chat sessions have directly improved productivity and efficiency companywide. We're now strongly positioned to compete in today's environment and we'll easily scale to capitalize on future opportunities as they present themselves."

"Our Cisco solution is performing exactly as expected and Accudata Systems has been professional throughout. I wouldn't pick another partner."

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