



Aircon Case Study

Real Time Over the Air Condition Monitoring



Issue

To be able to remotely real time monitor newly installed air conditioning systems at customer sites.

Solution

To use an IP based data acquisition application running over an existing cellular based network. Allowing for ease of installation and reliable real time data collection

3G M2M Benefits:

- Speed of installation
- Cost affective solution
- Large operational cost savings
- No requirements for proprietary radio network to be installed

Austec is a leading provider of Building Automation Solutions, based in Brisbane and Adelaide. The firm specialises in air-conditioning systems and works on major installations in the commercial, retail and defence sectors.

During the defects liability period of a new installation, **Austec** needs to keep a constant watch on the air-conditioning system and carry out many fine-tuning and updating tasks. Data obtained from temperature sensors and other metering devices, as well as feedback from occupants, must be scrutinised and responded to. Upgrading software or firmware is also a regular duty. In the past, much of this work involved technicians visiting the premises to download the data, change settings or install the upgrades. Dial-up modems were also used, but the cost of line installation and rental was not economical given the limited data speeds.



By using a NetComm industrial 3G router Austec now has access to their equipment remotely. The router is connected to the control panel of the plant, usually on the roof of the premises. From their own office the technicians can then log into the system and extract the data they require,

The solution was to use a 3G network accessed through a robust and dependable router. Connecting via a 3G network avoids the need for phone lines to be installed at a site or any concerns about being located away from the optimal ADSL footprint.

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Being designed for demanding environments, the NetComm family of routers are ideal for this sort of deployment. Contained within a metal case and utilizing industrial strength components, their rugged build and its ability to operate in a wide temperature range (from -30°C to 70 °C) make them perfect for installation on outdoor sites. The routers also contain on-board processing capabilities enabling tailor-made software to be incorporated, turning them into monitoring and communications devices all in one unit.

For **Austec** and their air-conditioning scenario, NetComm proved to be a cool solution.



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