

IN BRIEF

Industry

- » Professional Services

Challenges

- » Accelerate access to large design files and project documents everywhere
- » Provide LAN-like access to data for users at home and on the road
- » Accelerate applications for both remote Windows and Macintosh clients

Solution

- » Riverbed Steelhead appliances deployed at eight locations
- » Steelhead Mobile was deployed to over 60 users

Benefits

- » Real-time collaboration possible for users everywhere
- » Employees at hotels, customer sites, and branch offices have LAN-like access to files and data
- » Small offices can be deployed with no additional IT infrastructure

JEO Consulting Group, Inc.

Consulting Firm Improves Performance over the WAN for Branch Offices and Mobile Workers

For over 70 years, JEO Consulting Group, Inc. has been focused on delivering viable engineering solutions to customers across the Midwest. It is a full-service firm, offering engineering, architecture, surveying, and planning to hundreds of clients. JEO has a number of successful practices, including transportation, utilities, land development, environmental design, and topographic surveys. With 8 locations across Nebraska and Iowa, JEO serves the needs of a broad range of customers.

Challenge: Enabling Collaboration Across the Distributed Enterprise

According to Travis Klasna, IT manager for JEO, "Given that we have engineers, planners, and architects spread across two states, we depend on our wide area network (WAN) infrastructure to link them all together."

"We were having a lot of challenges in collaborating and sharing information over the WAN."

JEO was having challenges in collaborating and sharing information over the WAN, and its workforce was also becoming more mobile. Klasna explained, "Planners could be at a customer site or on a project, executives are always on the road, and many engineers want to work from home. But trying to remotely

download a set of project files and CAD drawings could take an engineer 60 minutes or more." JEO wanted to find a solution that could enable LAN-like application access and file sharing, no matter where employees happened to be located.

Solution: Steelhead Appliances and Steelhead Mobile Enable Remote Collaboration

JEO deployed Steelhead® appliances from Riverbed Technology in the headquarters and in seven branch offices. The company immediately realized performance advantages in its offices, and then became one of the initial users of Steelhead Mobile and deployed 30 Steelhead Mobile clients to employees that travel frequently or work from home. Klasna stated, "For us, the solution for the mobile worker started as a nice-to-have. Shortly thereafter we realized it was a must-have to enable our employees to work from everywhere."

Benefits: Real-Time Collaboration Everywhere

Riverbed® Steelhead appliances and Steelhead Mobile have enabled JEO's consultants to focus on delivering the best possible work to their clients. Klasna commented, "The results were pretty amazing. Basically, our employees in all our branch offices can share data now as if they were in the same place. In the past, downloading a 110-megabyte project folder from home on a DSL connection could take about 60 minutes. With Steelhead Mobile, I can complete that transfer in about a minute and a half. Not only that, some of our users are seeing as much as 75% less data going over their Internet connection. That really makes it possible to work productively over a home DSL line or a hotel Wi-Fi connection."

"For us, a solution for the mobile worker wasn't a nice-to-have. We needed to have it to enable our employees to work from everywhere."



Klasna concluded, "Riverbed provides great customer support and continues to add software enhancements that deliver functionality we continue to embrace. Riverbed engineers listen to our enhancement requests and continue to evolve the products to address market requirements. Overall, Riverbed has managed to deliver both the need to offer LAN-like performance to my users, no matter where they are, while making it easy for me to manage the whole system. That's a winning combination."

About Riverbed

Riverbed Technology is the IT performance company. The Riverbed family of wide area network (WAN) optimization solutions liberates businesses from common IT constraints by increasing application performance, enabling consolidation, and providing enterprise-wide network and application visibility – all while eliminating the need to increase bandwidth, storage or servers. Thousands of companies with distributed operations use Riverbed to make their IT infrastructure faster, less expensive and more responsive. Additional information about Riverbed (NASDAQ: RVBD) is available at www.riverbed.com.

SUMMARY

JEO Consulting Group, Inc. was looking for a solution that would allow their distributed workforce to have LAN-like access to files and data no matter where users happened to be. They needed a solution that would work for branch offices as well as employees on the road, at customer sites, or working from home.

After considering alternative approaches, JEO chose Riverbed for improving application performance over the WAN. The combined solution of Steelhead appliances for branch offices and Steelhead Mobile for users out of the office provides the complete solution that they needed.

With Steelhead appliances and Steelhead Mobile, JEO's engineers, planners, architects, and executives have accelerated access to the freshest data, regardless of their location or whether they're using Windows or Macintosh platforms. Employees can work more collaboratively, ensuring that their projects are completed on time and with the best information available.



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