

Collaboration in Motion: Extend the Agency Network Wherever You Need It

Can you remember the last time that everyone needed to make a decision was in the same location? Distance and time hinder collaboration between government employees, slowing decisions and impeding citizen service. "Work used to be a place, but now it's an activity that can be performed anywhere, including a disaster site, remote agency office, or home," says Chris Kozup, senior manager for mobility solutions, Cisco.

Cisco Collaboration in Motion is a framework that enables the government workforce to collaborate from any workspace. It's made possible through a combination of wireless and unified communications technologies. "The goal is to provide the same experience and tools whether an employee connects over the agency's wired network, a wireless network, or the cellular network," Kozup says.

Devices: Look for Reliability and Manageability

Government employees use a variety of mobile phones, smartphones, wireless IP phones, dual-mode phones (Wi-Fi plus cellular), and laptops. To avoid overwhelming the agency helpdesk, choose devices that connect reliably without any involvement by the agency IT department. Devices certified as Cisco Compatible take advantage of all the innovations in Cisco wireless networks and are easy to troubleshoot. For example, a Cisco Compatible smartphone supports uninterrupted connectivity when the worker roams from one wireless connectivity zone to another.

Wireless Infrastructure: Extend the Agency Network to Any Location

The wireless platform includes a controller and management software at the agency and a wireless access point in the workspace, whether that's a temporary office, the field, or home.

Controllers using the new 802.11n standard, such as the Cisco 5500 Series Wireless Controller, provide at least nine times the bandwidth previously available in most government wireless networks. That means that wireless voice conversations and video are as smooth as they would be on your desktop, not sputtering or jerky.

You can extend the agency network to your home or any other location in minutes using Cisco OfficeExtend. Just connect an 802.11n wireless access point to your router to immediately begin accessing the same voice, video, and data services you would have in the office. The wireless access point is actually part of the agency network, so agency IT personnel can remotely perform configuration, troubleshooting, and upgrades.

Applications: Voice, Video, and Data

A high-quality wireless platform supports more than voice calls and database access. You can also wirelessly access innovative applications like video and location-based services:

- Airport federal security directors can monitor video feeds on a smartphone from anywhere in the airport.
- Agency security personnel can view surveillance video from other parts of the building.
- Facilities personnel can monitor and control building systems.
- Security personnel can receive alerts when high-value items affixed with an RFID tag are moved outside of the allowed area. In this case, both the person and the device are in motion.

“Effective government depends on people collaborating with people, people collaborating with devices, and devices collaborating with devices,” Kozup says. “Cisco Collaboration in Motion bridges distance barriers by making the location of the people and devices irrelevant.”

To read more about Collaboration in Motion, visit: www.cisco.com/go/motion.




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