

Network upgrade delivers reliability and performance to Ordnance Survey Ireland

A major upgrade of its core network has delivered enhanced connectivity and network reliability to Ordnance Survey Ireland. As the organisation moves more and more of its operations online, a robust, high-performing network from eir Business plays a key role.



First founded in 1824 Ordnance Survey Ireland (OSi) has long been renowned for its commitment to cutting edge technology. Throughout its existence the national mapping agency has embraced technological advances; in 1846 it made Ireland the first country in the world to be entirely mapped at the detailed scale of 6 inch to 1 mile. Today, its map distribution system is almost exclusively online via its website, and its field surveyors can send large scale mapping updates from the field directly to the organisation's database. OSi's long-term relationship with eir Business has been instrumental in the organisation's technological progression.

Since 2002, OSi and eir Business have been working together to upgrade the organisation's core network. From 2Mbps leased lines in 2002, the organisation has come a long way and now has a 1Gbps fibre connection at its headquarters in Phoenix Park in Dublin with a 100Mbps licensed wireless backup. The organisation's six regional offices – Sligo, Kilkenny, Tuam, Ennis, Cork and Longford – all have a 20Mbps connection back to its Dublin headquarters.

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Jennifer Gilmartin, IT Programme Manager, OSi

“We've completed multiple upgrades over the years with eir Business. As we moved more of our business online and our digital maps have become more detailed resulting in significantly higher data sets it's become necessary to have a reliable, high-performing network, and that's what we have now,” explains Jennifer Gilmartin, IT Programme Manager at OSi.

In addition to the WAN upgrade, eir Business has worked with OSi to upgrade connectivity at the organisation's network of 26 GPS stations dotted around the country, often in remote locations and based in high-sites, including water towers.

“We could not have completed the upgrade on our GPS stations without our dedicated eir Business Account Manager.”

Jennifer Gilmartin, IT Programme Manager, OSi

Data from these GPS stations are streamed to a central location in Dublin for processing, which in turn facilitates the broadcast of precise corrections that provide accurate co-ordinates to field surveyors and other licenced users. eir Business upgraded connectivity at these stations from DSL to BIP DSL, which has delivered a more reliable service for OSi. “One thing that stood out for us in working with eir Business on this project is their nationwide coverage. This was a key factor for us as our GPS stations, and some of our regional offices, are based in distant locations,” says Jennifer. “In addition, eir's service level agreements provide both for our high speed fibre links and the digital lines to our 26 GPS stations, giving full assurance that any issues arising will be dealt with quickly and efficiently; this is vital given the importance of our networks.”

Over the years OSi has built up an excellent working relationship with eir Business and their account manager, who has become a valued resource for Jennifer. “For the upgrade on our GPS stations we know we couldn't have completed this project without a dedicated account manager” she says.

What did eir Business do for Ordnance Survey Ireland?

- Upgraded underlying circuits of OSi's WAN infrastructure from 100Mbps to 1Gbps at OSi Phoenix Park headquarters
- Equipped regional offices with 20Mbps connection to Dublin HQ
- Provided licensed wireless backup of OSi's core network of 100Mbps for added resiliency
- Upgraded OSi's network of 26 GPS stations nationwide from DSL to BIP DSL

Benefits for Ordnance Survey Ireland at a glance

- WAN upgrade facilitates OSi's increasing reliance on dependable connectivity
- GPS network upgrade significantly enhances reliability; essential to OSi's field operations
- eir's nationwide reach ensures connectivity for even OSi's most distant offices and GPS stations
- Comprehensive Service Level Agreement offers peace of mind
- Dedicated eir account manager understands OSi and its unique challenges
- Ready access to technical expertise through eir account manager and support manager