



## CASE STUDY: STRATFORD CITY WI-FI

Facing new energy conservation regulations, the city of Stratford decided to initiate a smart metering program that could do double duty. Early in 2010, the Province of Ontario enacted its Green Energy and Green Economy Act, setting specific goals for energy conservation in municipalities like Stratford. The city itself had its own goal of providing Wi-Fi for its residents, the business communities and visitors. It planned to stimulate economic development through its Smart City initiative.



### ● The Client

Stratford is a city with a mission. Located in southern Ontario, southwest of Toronto, the city has 32,000 residents and hosts 600,000 visitors annually. Through its new "Smart City" program, Stratford is preparing for the future of the city and its citizens by taking maximum advantage of high-speed Internet technology. "Promoting energy conservation and stimulating economic growth are top priorities for Stratford and are key components of our Smart City initiative," says Stratford Mayor Dan Mathieson. Crucial program stakeholders include Rhyzome Networks, a wholly owned entity of the city and Festival Hydro, Stratford's electric utility.

### ● Needs

Stratford needed a comprehensive network solution to support city-wide Wi-Fi for residents, businesses, and visitors, along with a high-capacity platform for future smart-city applications. The solution also required smart metering for real-time electricity usage, tailored splash pages for various locations, and a new municipal revenue stream through carrier partnerships. Additionally, reliable connectivity for municipal employees and public works, as well as long-term scalability to accommodate tens of thousands of users, was essential.

## TESTIMONIAL

"We (City of Stratford) had a mix of objectives and goals. SolutionInc listened and understood our goals. SolutionInc provided the perfect platform and support model to achieve our goals."

**PAUL WEST**

Business Development Manger, Rhyzome Networks

## ● The Solution

### SOLUTIONIP™ FLEX

- Hardware-agnostic internet gateway
- Authentication, billing, and user management
- Location-based marketing and custom splash pages
- Supports large-scale public Wi-Fi networks
- Flexible, scalable platform for smart-city growth

### MOTOROLA MWAN (802.11n Mesh Network)

- Outdoor mesh Wi-Fi covering 8 square miles
- 300 access points in the city, plus 100 in surrounding rural communities
- Supports mobile municipal operations and smart metering



SolutionIP™ FLEX is the central management system that provides the various authentication and billing capabilities, acting as the Internet gateway.

## TESTIMONIAL

"From a scalability perspective SolutionInc gave us the right platform (in SolutionIP™ FLEX) to scale to 38,000 simultaneous users. During our official launch we had 1,800 concurrent users on the SolutionInc system and it performed well."

**PAUL WEST**

Business Development Manger, Rhyzome Networks



## TESTIMONIAL

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**PAUL WEST**

Business Development Manager, Rhizome Networks

## CITYWIDE CONNECTIVITY & SMART METERING

Stratford deployed a unified network providing both ultra high-speed public Wi-Fi and real-time smart metering. SolutionIP™ FLEX manages all user access and splash pages, enabling sponsorships and service customization. Smart meters now deliver hourly electricity usage for 18,000 homes and businesses, driving conservation and cost savings.

## MULTIPLE WORKFORCE BENEFITS

The network also supports mobile access for 400+ municipal employees, improving operational efficiency and reducing recurring cellular costs.

## THE RESULT

Stratford's citywide wireless network delivers transformative outcomes:

- A fully connected Smart City infrastructure
- Real-time smart metering for energy conservation
- Free high-speed public internet for residents and visitors
- New revenue opportunities through local carriers and sponsored splash pages
- Enhanced efficiency for municipal services and public works
- A scalable digital backbone for future smart-city application

## CONTACT

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**SolutionInc**

## A STRONG PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP MODEL

The City of Stratford, Rhizome Networks, Festival Hydro, Motorola, and SolutionInc united to deliver one of Canada's first large-scale smart-city wireless ecosystems. This partnership established Stratford as a national leader in digital innovation, energy conservation, and municipal broadband.

With the success of this initiative, Stratford's Smart City model is poised to expand across Ontario, supporting energy-efficient communities representing more than 2.7 million people.