

Boy Scouts linked up in optimum fashion

No other youth organisation in the world is as well represented as the boy scout movement. It exists in virtually every country in the world. One of the reasons is probably that nature-loving boy scouts are also interested in modern means of communication.

HUBER+SUHNER provided the components for the IT network for the Swiss boy scout movement's national camp Contura 08 free of charge. In particular, the new SL60 radio link was used in a creative way.

Boy scouts stand for adventure, friendship and shared outdoor experiences – worldwide! Approximately 38 million boy scouts are spread over more than 200 countries on all continents, compared with 50 000 living in Switzerland. Approximately half of these met up this summer at Contura 08, the Swiss boy scout movement's national camp, which only takes place every 10 to 15 years.

Spread over eight sub-camps, 25 000 children and young people experienced two weeks of boy-scouting adventure in the open air in July and August – with all that a camp entails – from sleeping in tents to various hikes and games, tracking, and the excitement of the campfire.

Modern communication network is important

As communication plays an important role in the movement, and boy scouts go with the times, they are interested in modern technology despite their close relationship with the natural world. So the entire national camp was equipped with an IT network, the Contura Net, via which various services in the camp organisation ran. The whole registration management system, for example, the planning of helper deployment, infrastructure resources administration for the duration of the camp, internet access for the participants, and many other things.

It was therefore of central importance for the boy scouts to have a reliable network throughout the period, linking the different sub-camps and locations. At the same time it was important to keep the time investment for this temporary installation to a minimum. HUBER+SUHNER has the ideal solution for this, so the Swiss sales department launched the IT partnership project with the Contura 08 national camp. Our company provided components worth approximately 150 000 francs.

Deployment of SL60 radio link

Several 5-GHz-WLAN point-to-point radio systems linking the WLAN network to the switching centre, as well as numerous 2.4-GHz-WLAN point-to-multipoint links, which secured coverage of the sub-camps. In addition, HUBER+SUHNER's latest technology for wireless transmission of large quantities of data was deployed: the SL60 radio link, licensed for use in Switzerland last February. Due to its simple installation, the SL60 radio system was ideally suited to temporary use for the boy scout camp. Eleven SL60 sets were deployed for distances of up to 800 metres.

«We are delighted that we were able to acquire HUBER+SUHNER as our IT partner for the Contura Net», said Arjen van Summeren, who was responsible for IT at the 2008 national boy scout camp. «This made it possible for us to set up a fast and secure network at a minimum of expense for this period. After all, even the boy scouts can no longer manage without information technology.»

This partnership enabled HUBER+SUHNER not only to support the Swiss boy scout movement, but also to promote awareness of the HUBER+SUHNER brand with a new and open-minded generation.



High above the Swiss national boy scouts camp Contura 08: the SL60 worked perfectly throughout.