



Setting the Standard for Automation™

802.11 Wireless Ethernet as a Process Control Network Backbone

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Strategic Product Manager - Wireless

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- Jim Ralston
 - **Strategic Product Manager - Wireless**
 - Over 16 years in Industrial Wireless market
 - Field Engineering/Support
 - Wireless System Design
 - Sales
 - Product Marketing
 - Resides in Pittsburgh, PA
 - Married with 2 teen children
 - Eldest a freshman in the EE program at WVU

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- Ethernet in Process Control
- Benefits of 802.11 Wireless Ethernet
- Comparison of 802.11 wireless standards
- Wireless design considerations
- CFE Geothermal Power Generation Project
- Frontier Well Head & Refinery Wireless Project
- Questions?



- Industrial Ethernet popularity growing...
 - Field proven
 - ModBus TCP/IP, EtherNet/IP protocols
- High speed, low latency network
 - 100/1000Base-T
- Open standard, commercially available hardware (lower cost)
- Accommodates multiple data types
 - Process, commands, workstation, video, IT

Challenges of Ethernet Infrastructure



- Older plants = No network infrastructure
- Ethernet copper links limited in distance
 - 100 meter limit
- Longer runs require Fiber Optics
 - FO Cables, FO Repeaters/Switches
- Very high cost of conduit design & installation
- Fiber cable subject to environmental damage
 - Where is the break? Time to repair?
- High cost may limit system scope



Benefits of Wireless 802.11



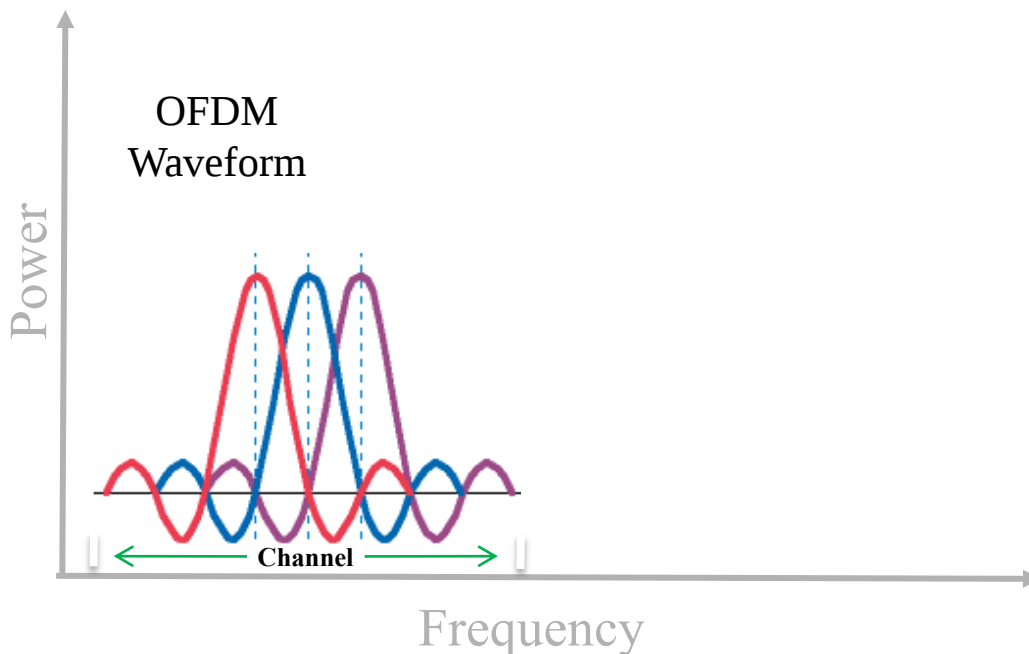
- Saves money by reducing plant wiring costs
 - Plant wire installation may cost as much as \$100 to \$2,000 per foot!
 - 802.11 supports long links (2+ km)
- Saves time
 - No cable to install
- Redundancy
 - Economic self-healing networking
- Support for mobile workers
 - Wi-fi enabled workstations, laptops, SmartPhones, etc



IEEE 802.11a/g/n Technologies



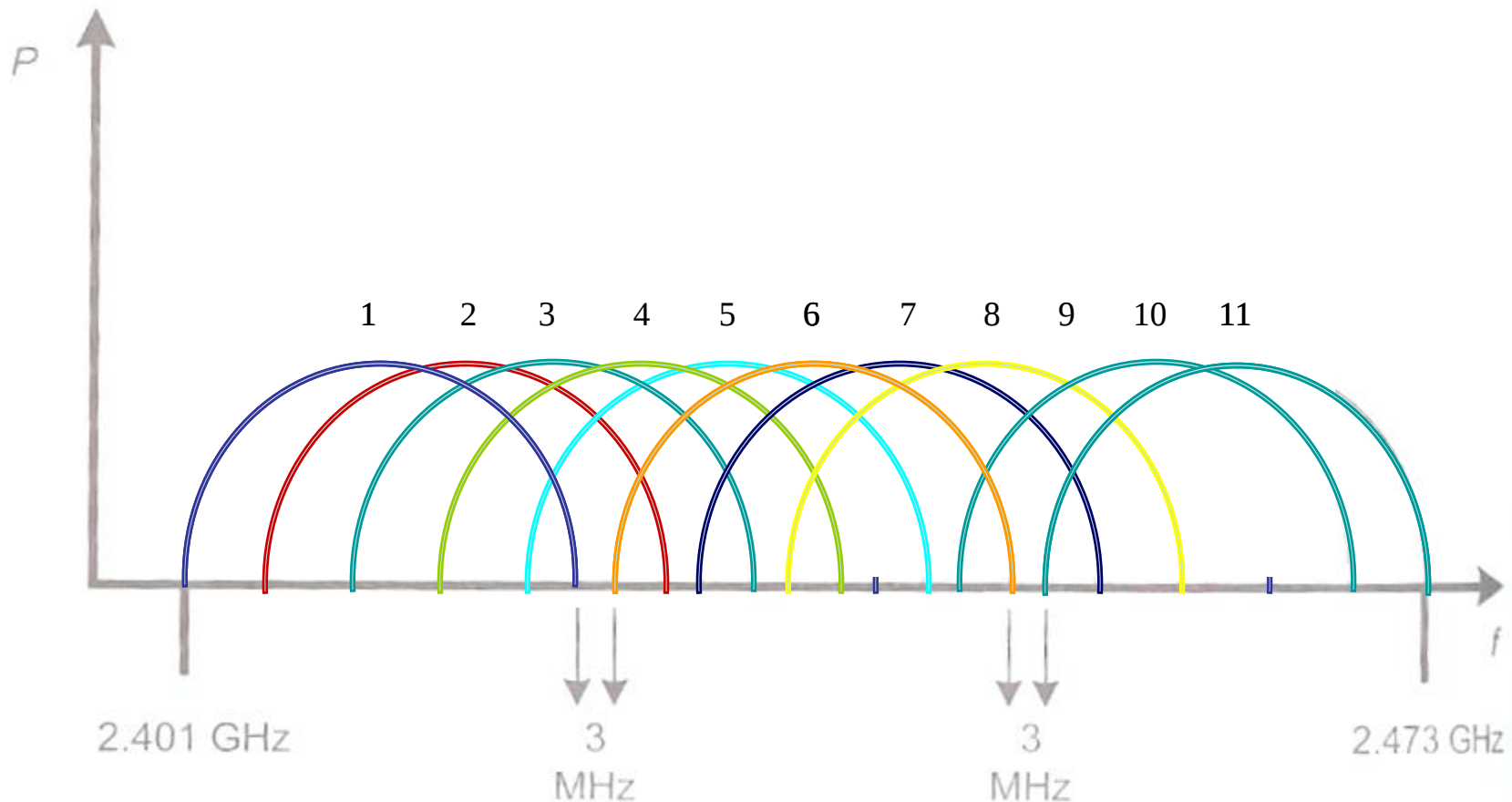
- Open standard – “Wi-Fi”
 - OFDM modulation
 - 20 MHz Wide channel = fast data rate (up to 150 mbps)
 - Low latency - microseconds
 - CDMA (collision detection – listen first)



802.11g/n Frequency Channels



RF Bands –2.4 to 2.483 GHz (83 GHz of bandwidth)

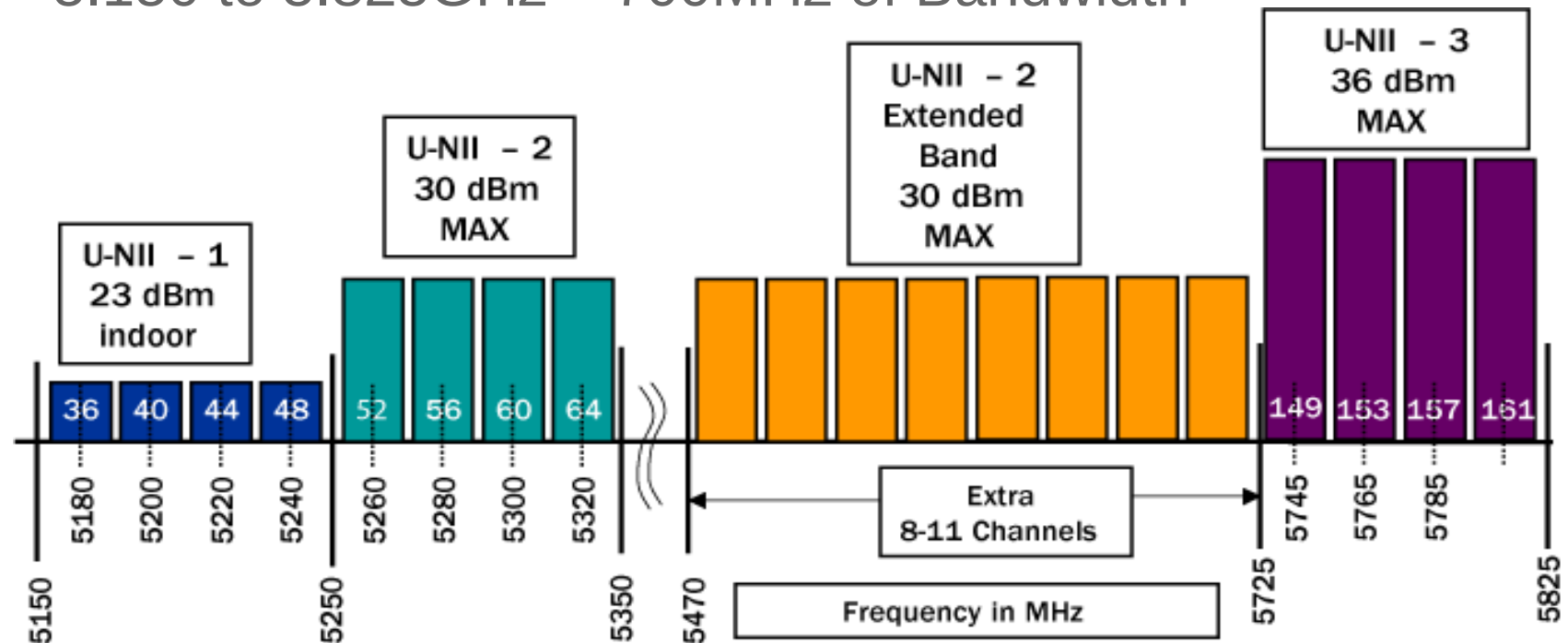


Only 3 non-overlapping channels in 2.4 GHz!

802.11a/n Frequency Channels

RF Bands –5 GHz

- 5.150 to 5.825GHz – 700MHz of Bandwidth



Note: Twelve non-overlapping channels within U-NII-1, U-NII 2 and U-NII 3.

Over 20 non-overlapping channels in 5 GHz band

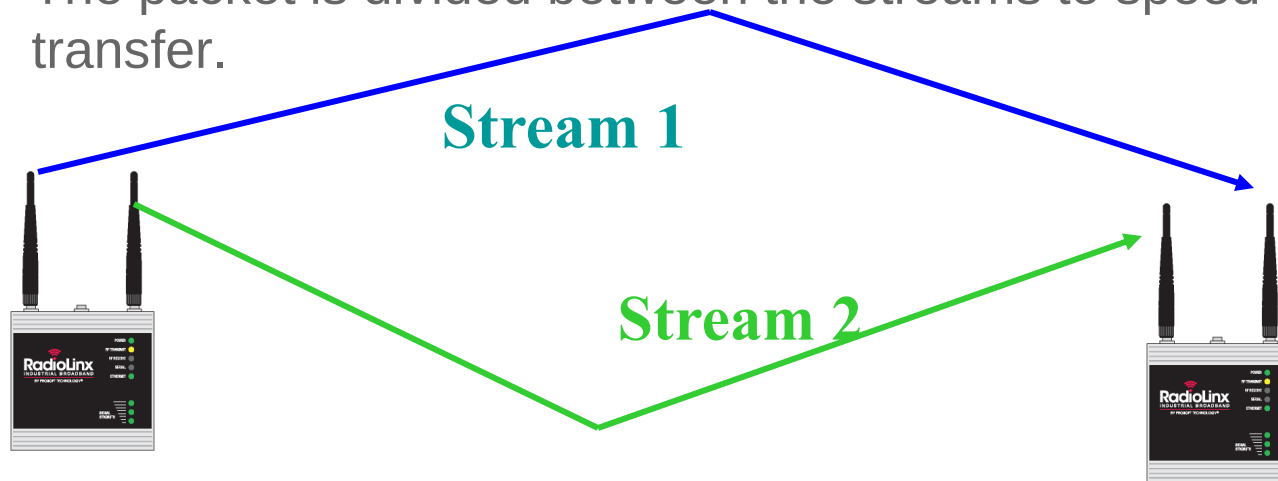
802.11n – What's New



Feature	802.11a/g	802.11n
• RF Rates	6-54 Mbps	6-300 Mbps
• Antennas	1(2)	1 - 3
• Bands	g (2.4GHz) a (5 GHz)	ng (2.4GHz) na (5GHz)
• UDP Stream	3,500 pps	13,000 pps
• TCP/IP Rates	1,000 pps	4,000 pps

802.11n offers significant higher packets per second (pps)!

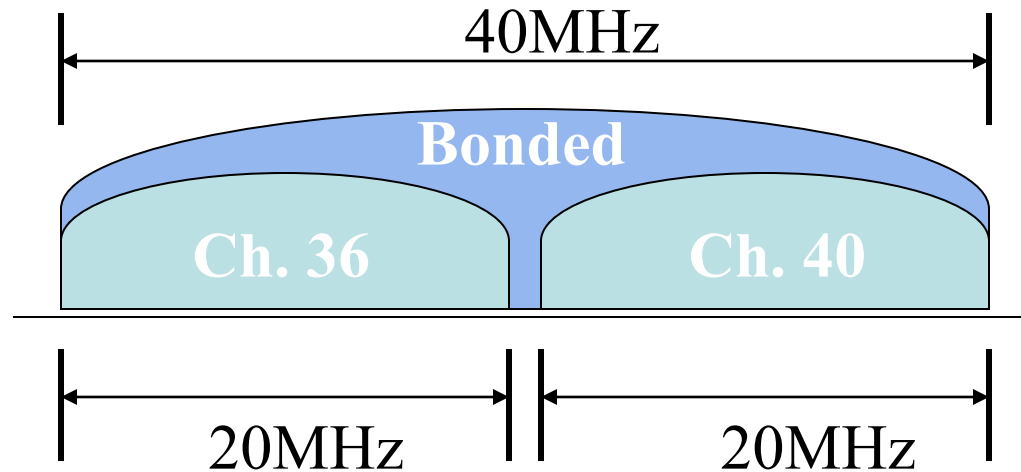
- More than one data streams
 - 802.11n radios can send 2 streams of data at a time if the conditions are right.
 - At least 2 antennas must be connected to each radio.
 - Multipath is important to keep the streams separate – the different streams take (slightly) different paths
 - The packet is divided between the streams to speed data transfer.



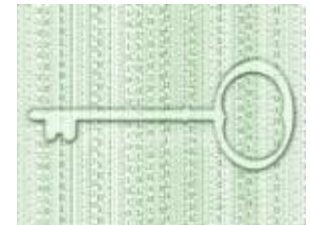
- Multiple Input Multiple Output (MIMO)
 - One antenna, three elements
 - Intentionally creates multiple paths (reflections)
 - Required for multiple streams
 - Three antenna leads
 - Omni-directional & directional



- Channel Bonding
 - 2 Adjacent Channels can be used at the same time
 - Twice the data can be sent at a time



- Security components
 - Authentication – allow those certified
 - Encryption – scramble data to make it unreadable
 - Integrity – protect against false data
- Standards Progression
 - WEP 64 & 128 (2000) – Weak, known faults
 - WPA – TKIP (2004) – Software patch to WEP
 - WPA2 – AES (2006) – Robust standard
 - adopted by NIST & US Govt.,
 - approved by NSA for secure communications
- 802.11i & WPA2
 - Passphrase – WPA2-PSK
 - RADIUS Service – WPA2-Enterprise



802.11 Diagnostics



- Web server

802.11 Diagnostics

Signal Strength: 31 dBm

Signal to Noise Ratio: 64 dBm

% Tx Retries: 95 %

Link

Parent MAC: 00:0D:8D:F0:3C:6D

Link Time: 0 Days 0 Hrs 47 Min 54 Sec

Connected

Configuration Diagnostics Utilities Logout

Main Address Table Statistics 802.11 Traffic Tools

Bridges Associated Clients Other 802.11 Devices help

The page will auto-refresh in 7 seconds

Link Up Time	RSTP Status	Current Data Rate	Data Delay to Channel	Average Packet Rate	Average Data Rate	Age
4 days, 6 hours, 2 minutes, 21 seconds	---	130	441	178	231906	0

Poll Interval: 10 Seconds Start Stop

Configuration Diagnostics Utilities Logout

Main Address Table Statistics 802.11 Traffic Tools

Bridges Associated Clients Other 802.11 Devices help

The page will auto-refresh in 8 seconds

SSID	Channel	RSSI
GuestNet	1	-51
psffmn	1	-43
0022_2465	6	-50
PowerPlus	6	-57
stat	11	-46
mgsTest	11	-45
Network1	3	-68
pathN	149	-45
JLS_Desk1	100	-52

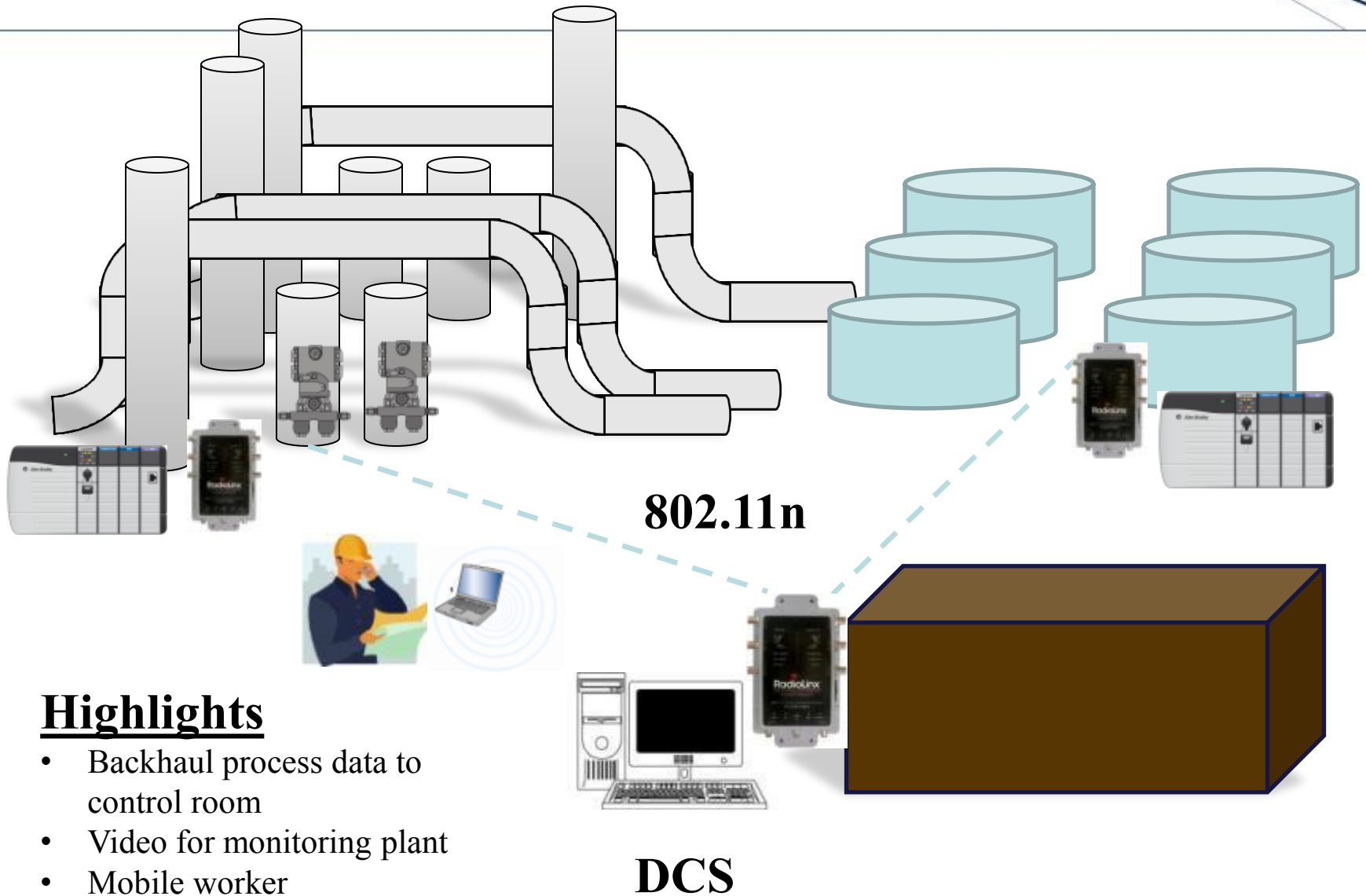
Poll Interval: 10 Seconds Start Stop

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802.11 Industrial “Best Practices”

- Perform site testing
 - Existing wireless systems
 - RF paths/Antenna placement
- Use a “clear channel”
 - Consider 5 GHz band
 - Coordinate with IT (spectrum management)
- Design redundant RF paths, self-healing
- Select 802.11i security, turn it on!
- Select hardened hardware (environment/vibration)
- Weatherproof all connections
- Utilize diagnostics (monitor RF health/packets)

Oil & Gas - Refinery



Highlights

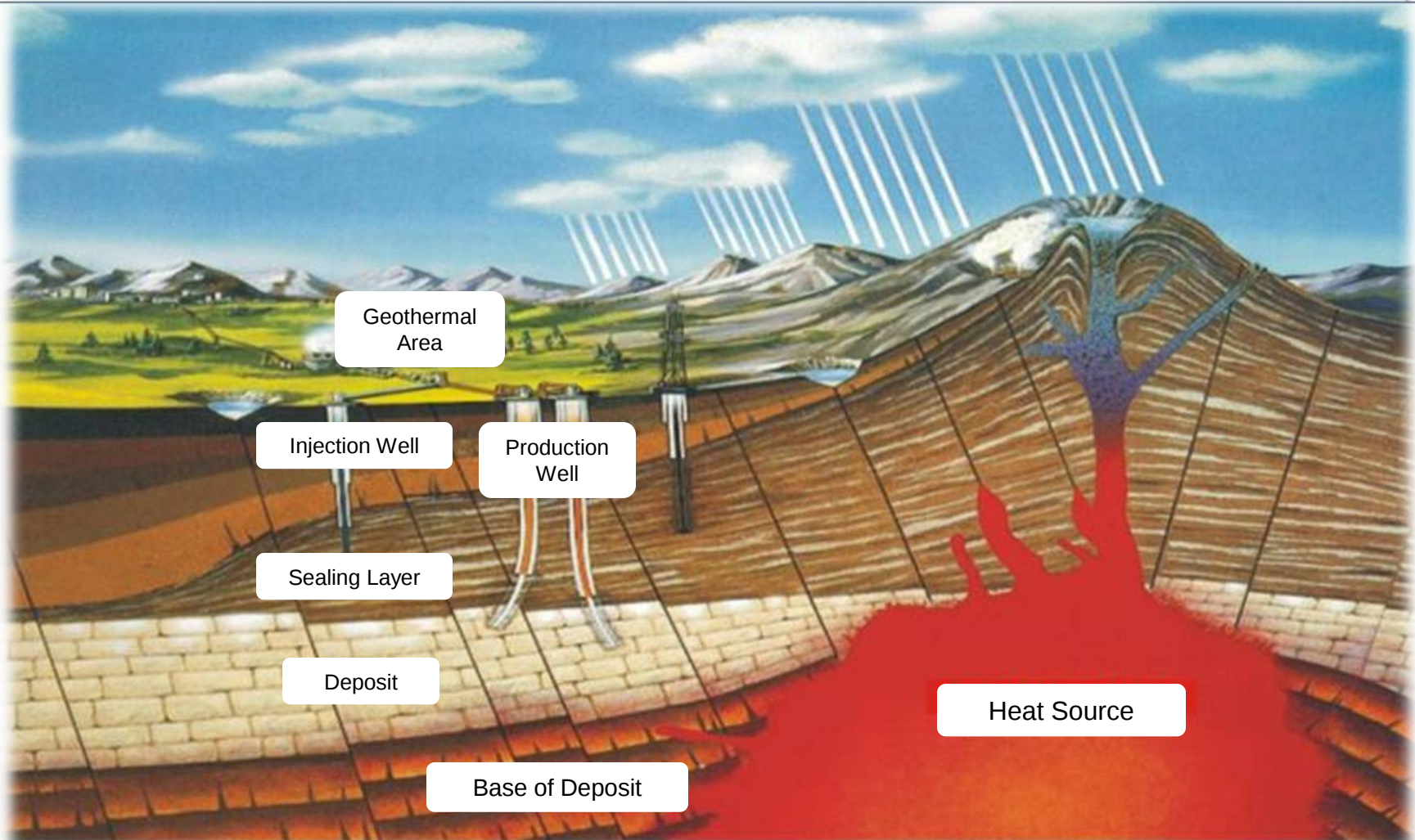
- Backhaul process data to control room
- Video for monitoring plant
- Mobile worker

CFE - Cerro Prieto Geothermal Field



Cerro Prieto, Mexico

Geothermal Power Generation

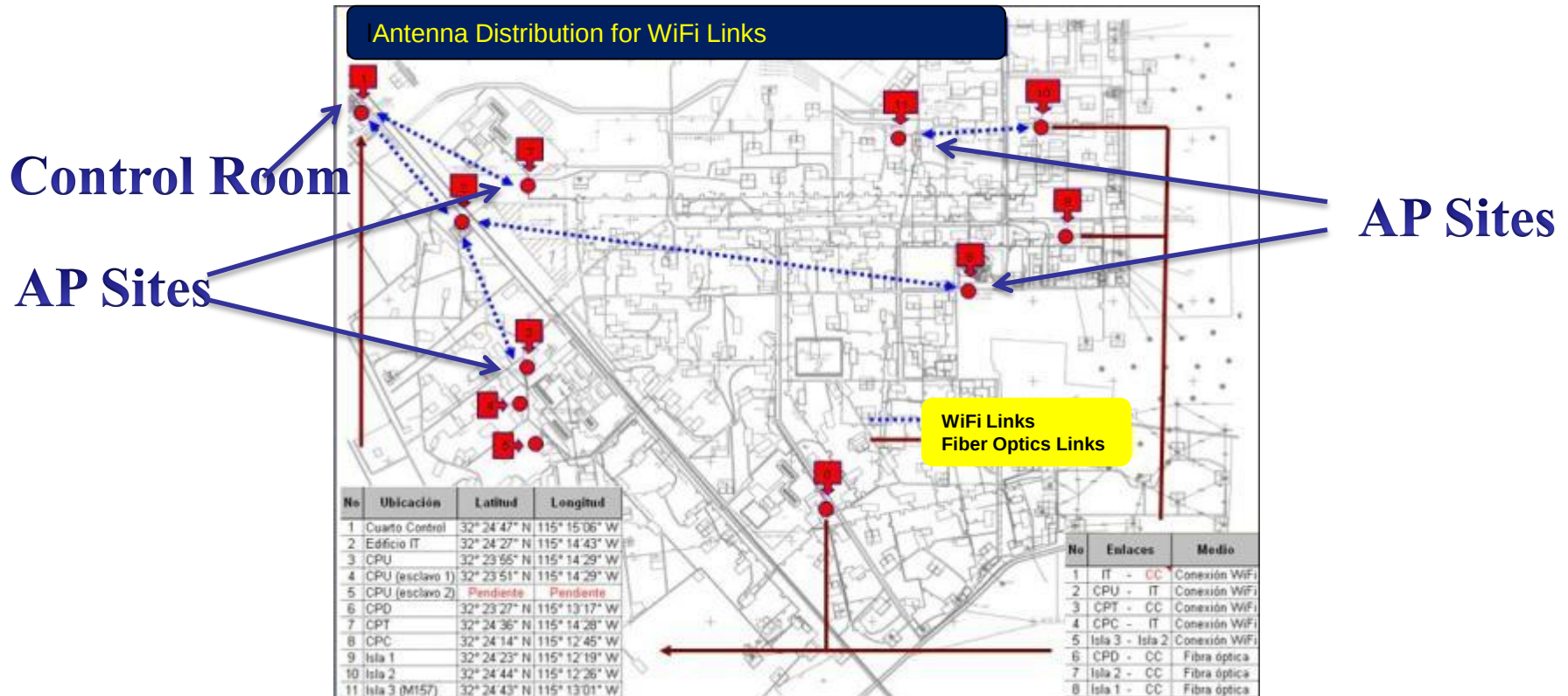


- Installed Wireless HART devices and Foundation Fieldbus
 - Monitoring 17 steam wells
- Data sent back to DCS
- Reliability of fiber was not meeting requirements
- 8,000 meters of fiber replacement too expensive
- Fiber survives only 4-6 months and the time for repair is around 3 months.



802.11g Wireless Retrofit

- Central Control Room communicating to 4 gateways over the 802.11g



Solution Installed



CFE Network Results



- Wireless performing very well for over 2 years
- Plans to add 5 more Access Point
 - Ease of expandability- reduced costs to improve monitoring





Network Design Steps



- Preliminary System Design
 - PWD Software Design
- Site Verification Process
 - Visual Inspection of Sites
 - Channel Availability
 - Critical Link Verification
 - Verify Estimated Signal Strength
 - Battery power unit
 - Bill of Materials Generation
- Effort Estimate
 - System Design: 1 day
 - On-site testing: 2 days
 - On-going Support: 2 days

Frontier Oil Refinery



Radio Configuration/Diagnostic Utility - Windo...

http://192.168.100.141/parenttable.htm%dfc687b4dd522320?UVW_180_5=0&reload=F

Available Access Points W Master Only Show Same SSID: ☐ Refresh

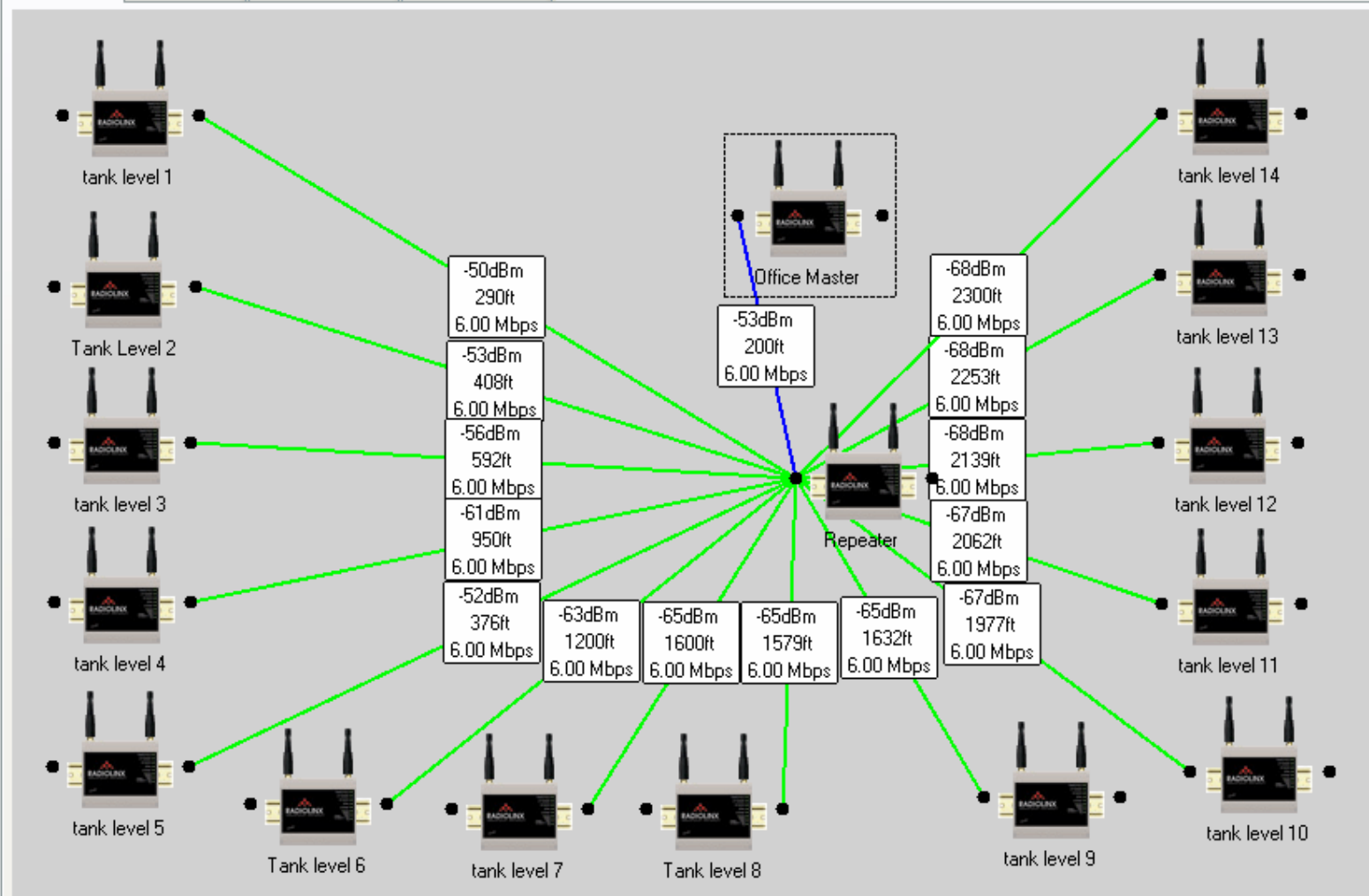
00.0D.8D.F0.12.C1 path W Master Click on column header to sort

MAC ID	SSID	Channel	RSSI	Security	Speed	Cost	Age(s)	Hops
00:0d:8d:f0:0d:84	Network1	1	-59	WPA	b	64	0	2
00:0d:8d:f0:11:61	Network1	1	-68	WPA	b	32	3	1
00:0d:8d:f0:11:69	Network1	1	-58	WPA	b	64	1	2
00:1a:70:5a:10:42	linksys	6	-83	none	g	411	1	na
00:1d:7e:a0:59:6e	AHSOUTH	6	-83	WEP	g	411	7	na
00:60:b3:5d:74:63	Hidden	2	-70	none	b	225	1	na

Tank Level System

Frontier Refinery

Diagram Parts List Site Details Link Details

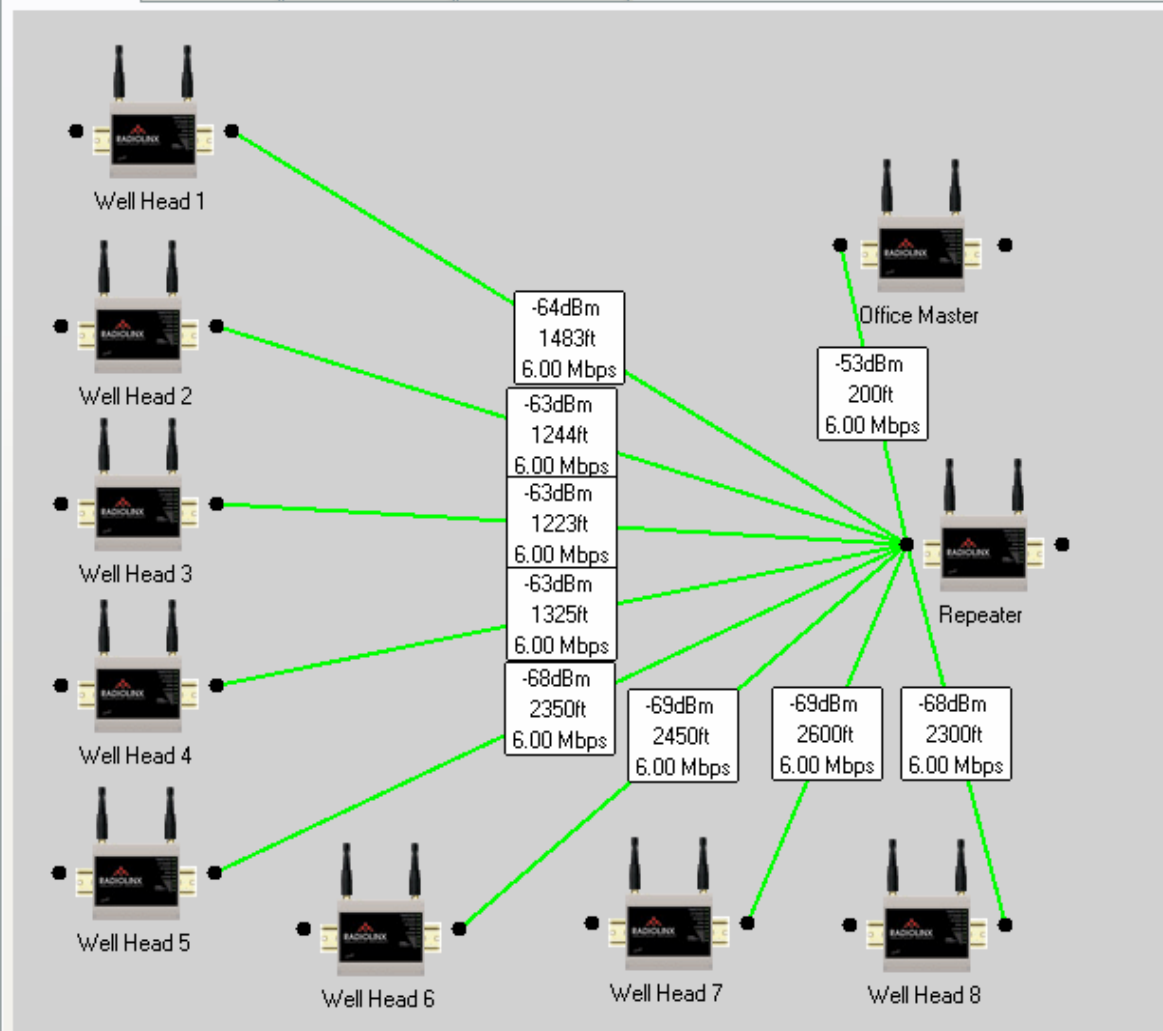


Well Head System



Frontier Refinery

Diagram Parts List Site Details Link Details





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Questions?

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