



Stratford, ON Municipal Wi-Fi

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. A citywide municipal services network based on SolutionInc's SolutionIP™ Enterprise Management System and Motorola's 802.11n mesh wide area network (MWAN) technology supports both high-speed mobile Internet access and smart metering with the capacity to add additional applications. To meet these objectives, Rhyzome Networks, owned by the city but operating independently, and Festival Hydro, Stratford's electric utility, opted for a citywide wireless network using the latest broadband technology from SolutionInc and Motorola. SolutionInc's SolutionIP™ Enterprise system is provisioning engine that facilitates the billing, location based marketing and registration of users.

The system enables service providers like Rhyzome Networks to offer a wireless Internet zone in Stratford from its central network operation center. SolutionIP™ Enterprise manages the Internet services and controls the network for hot spots, properties and end users.

SolutionIP™ Enterprise allows Rhyzome to present tailored splash screens to individual locations. This enables Rhyzome to offer appropriate service packages, targeted messaging and advertisements based on the user's location.

The high-speed wireless network was installed in 2010 and consists of 300 outdoor access points covering 8 square miles, and 100 additional access points serving six smaller rural communities. The system makes the entire city a wireless broadband hot spot, enabling residents, businesses and visitors to enjoy instant access from virtually anywhere in Stratford. Wi-Fi is available free to all users.

Local sponsors pay a monthly fee to have their webpage as part of the 'free zone'. Free Zone participants include the library, the economic development, and County Health.



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

“From a scalability perspective SolutionInc gave us the right platform (in SolutionIP™ Enterprise) 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

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