

ONEOK saves cost and equipment using ProComSol's iOS Smart Device Communicator

Problem: ONEOK is one of the nation's leading midstream service providers supplying natural gas liquids all across the midwestern US with thousands of miles of pipeline transporting several billion cubic feet of NGL per day. Metering stations along the pipeline use intelligent field measurement devices requiring maintenance and setup using HART digital communications. Most of these stations are located in remote areas requiring I&E technicians to carry the tools needed to the job site.

Solution: Before switching to iPhones with ProComSol's DevCom.iOS Smart Device Communicator software (DevCom.iOS), ONEOK's field I&E technicians were using laptops or Rosemount 475s for configuring HART devices. Not only did laptops and 475s give them one more thing to carry and keep charged, but the 475s hardware was also becoming outdated, requiring expensive upgrades. According to Brian Gudenkauf, ONEOK I&E Supervisor, "the iPhone is always charged and ready to go." He also estimates that ONEOK saves over \$5,000 in equipment cost per field technician compared to upgrading to AMS Trex communicators. Much of the work is in hazardous areas requiring safe work permits, but costly intrinsic safety requirements are avoided with personal gas monitors making cell phones no problem.

Results: With approximately 40 I&E technicians throughout the Midwest, ONEOK is saving over \$200,000 in equipment cost. The convenient Procomsol Bluetooth HART Modem (HM-BLE) is the only additional piece of equipment they need to carry. Gudenkauf also reports they find the DevCom user interface to be intuitive and easy to use.

