



AS REPORTED IN
ianews

Icom America's Monthly Newsletter

FR6000 Bridges Facility's Analog, Digital Systems

from December 2008



Project partners Ken Aungst of Washtenaw Communications and Scott Adams of Adams Distributing needed to find just the right repeater for a customer's new research facility situated on 700 acres in southeastern Michigan.

The customer, a leading automobile manufacturer, wanted to install a narrowband digital communications system in its newly constructed research facility. But it also needed the capability to communicate with a nearby engineering facility that still operated a conventional analog system. Security was a top priority, along with superior audio and a wide channel range.

The requirements were rigid, but the Icom FR6000 repeater was a "slam dunk," according to Adams.

Flexible and high-performing, the FR6000 IDAS repeater can receive both analog and digital signals on a single channel, allowing the customer to

operate a digital system in the research facility and still communicate with the engineering facility's analog system. Built on the NXDN™ common air interface, the FR6000 also met the customer's tight security specifications.

"When this project emerged, Ken and I began looking at currently available equipment to provide the users with a system that operated better than competitive offerings," Adams says. "Several suppliers were consulted, and of the two that were considered, the Icom system provided the performance and security the user desired at almost half the cost. When Ken presented it, it wasn't even close."

Both Aungst and Adams have more than 30 years experience in the LMR industry.

As part of Icom's next-generation IDAS digital offerings, the FR6000 is an ideal fit for business and industry

users anticipating a future migration to advanced digital 6.25 kHz technology. All Icom IDAS products are compatible with legacy FM analog radio systems and offer digital/analog mixed-mode operation.

In addition to the two FR6000 repeaters installed at the facility, the customer also purchased 12 F4061 portables and three F6061 mobile radios configured as control stations. An F6061 is paired with each of the repeaters, and a third is set up as a control station for the existing analog system at the engineering site.

The portables are primarily used by security and maintenance personnel.

Installation proceeded without incident, and the system is performing exactly as designed. "The user loves the system," Adams says.

The facility plans to add additional portables and potentially a third repeater within the coming months as additional building phases progress.

©2009 Icom America Inc. The Icom logo is a registered trademark of Icom Inc. NXDN is a trademark of Icom Incorporated and Kenwood Corporation. 10151

