



**SATELLITE SYSTEMS AND SERVICE**  
**WEATHER, EMAIL, VOICE & DATA SOLUTIONS**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Midas Gold, Inc. Deploys VSAT Service, Multi-line VoIP, and Metered Network at Idaho Mine Site**

*Stibnite-Yellow Pine District, Idaho*

*October 06, 2011*

Midas Gold, Inc. of Spokane, Washington appointed OCENS, Inc. of Seattle, Washington in June of this year to configure a remote communications system consisting of a VSAT antenna and service, VoIP telephone system, and network controls and metering at its Stibnite-Yellow Pine District gold mining site, located in the Salmon River Mountains of central Idaho.

The site sits at an altitude of 6500 ft. and is surrounded by steep, forested terrain. The mine operates seasonally from early June until late October and has one permanent structure, three modular offices, and hosts a temporary camp that houses 25-30 workers.

The mine operation had a Hughes Net VSAT system as the sole internet connection and mine operators used handheld satellite phones for all voice communications. The Hughes Net service has a restrictive fair use policy and handheld satellite phones aren't as practical or cost effective for regular office use. Additionally, the majority of mine personnel previously had no access to internet or telephones while at the camp for their 2-3 week work intervals. The mine operators needed a more robust communications system providing high speed internet with minimal usage restrictions, internet access pin controls and metering for individual users, a multi-line phone system, and network access for the work camp.

OCENS provided a VSAT system with a 1.2 meter antenna and high speed 2 Mbps service that includes a generous fair-usage policy limit of 30 GB per month. The site's local network was designed around OCENS' WebXaccelerator, an internet acceleration, metering, and automatic failover device. All traffic is routed through the WXa which provides metered internet access via pre-assigned pins, usage logs, remote support, and load balancing which takes advantage of the existing Hughes system that also serves as an automatic backup. Additional features that are built into the WXa include web compression, black lists/white lists, and Wi-Fi.

Wireless Access Points were placed at each of the three offices as well as the camp. Since the camp sits approximately 1000 ft. away and down a slope from the main office area where the VSAT equipment is located, a high-range wireless bridge was installed to integrate the camp to the network.

OCENS incorporated its Horizon Multi VoIP platform, which utilizes the VSAT connection and provides very low cost voice service. Four out of the eight available lines are used at the site with one line going to each office. The lines use standard CAT3 cabling and are compatible with any ordinary phone handset. One major benefit of using Horizon over satellite is its *SmartPacket* technology which greatly compresses VoIP calls while maintaining a high voice quality. For example, even at its highest call quality setting, a single line on the Horizon uses only about 25% of the bandwidth of a typical VoIP phone. Prepaid and postpaid service is universally available anywhere in the world and any call is free when calling "in-network" from one Horizon unit to another.



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OCENS preconfigured and tested Midas Gold's entire network before deploying it to the site to ensure a smooth "plug-and-play" installation. With remote access enabled and network monitoring capabilities from the OCENS office, remote-support is offered with real-time visibility ensuring reduced downtime in the event of a problem.

The final implementation of the complete system provides high speed internet access, a well-protected network, and a cost-effective multi-line phone system; capabilities that are very comparable to conventional land based service, but in the remote regions of Idaho. The system and varied configurations of it are available for virtually any geographical location on earth.

For the full case study and more product related details, go to: <http://www.ocens.com/Mining.aspx>

*OCENS is a provider of a broad range of fixed and mobile satellite communications solutions for industries such as mining, forestry, wildland firefighting, business continuity / disaster recovery, broadcasting, emergency response, military and private security, and maritime. Products and services include VSAT, mobile and fixed Iridium and Inmarsat satellite phones, Inmarsat BGAN mobile broadband, M2M and SCADA, failover systems, VoIP, network controls and metering, web and email compression, asset and personnel tracking, and video surveillance. OCENS tailors complete solutions to meet the customer's specific needs and always offers consistent end-user support throughout the use of its products and services.*

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