LANTRONIX

Enabling Secure, Real-Time Management of Irrigation Resources

Key Requirements

- Capable of handling the existing multiple irrigation controller locations
- Ease-of-implementation was critical
- Ease-of-integration with each office's unique software
- Remote access, control and device management
- Highest levels of encryption and security to ensure data assets are protected over high-performance Wi-Fi® utilizing EAP-TLS enterprise level security
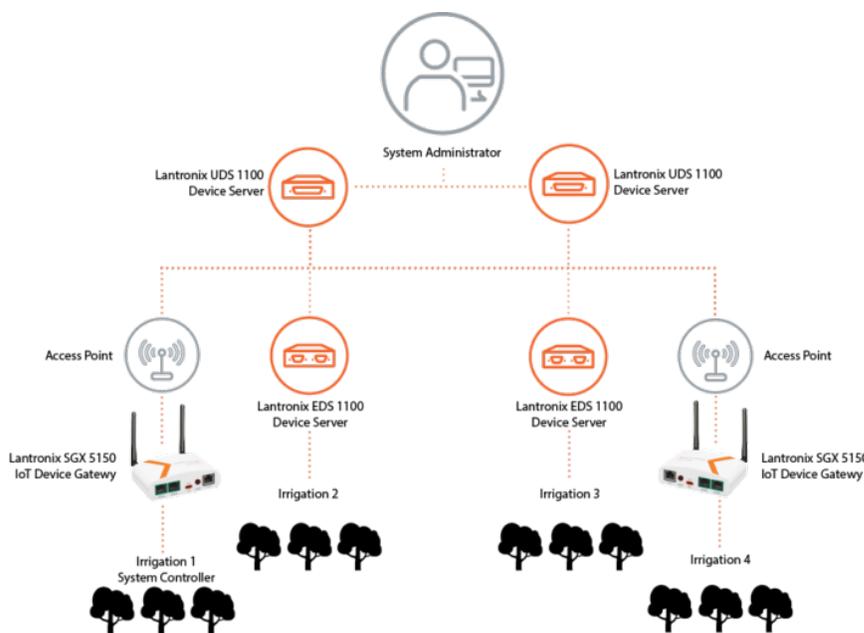
Results

- Rapid deployment – the set-up and configuration of the SGX 5150 was done in a matter of minutes and the centralized solution was up and running within days
- Customer can remotely manage and control all irrigation controllers either over Ethernet or Wi-Fi
- The SGX 5150 solution overall resulted in reduced operating costs, improved horticulture watering program times and the ability to change the watering program "on the fly" as the plantings change.

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The Challenge

The customer – a Fortune 500 organization, who is in the business of theme parks, with thousands of acres of plants, grass, and other horticulture that needs specific watering on a very timely schedule. Irrigation controllers are scattered throughout the property. Some can be reached by wire, and others cannot. The proprietary irrigation software resides on a single PC in the data center but needs bi-directional access to each irrigation controller.

Historically, for connectivity, the application supports a "modem" to dial the irrigation controller at the remote location. As phones have gone digital, and switchboards have moved on property, the POTS line is no longer available or expensive. Could Lantronix provide a more cost effective solution that was reliable and scalable?

The Solution

The Lantronix SGX 5150 – a solution for distributed control environments – was an ideal solution for the customer, whose business model requires the need to manage hundreds of irrigation controllers with thousands of sprinklers. Without changes to the application software and Lantronix modem emulation, the centralized PC can contact each controller (via Wi-Fi or Ethernet), access the appropriate weather conditions, build the watering program, and download it to the controller without making an on-site visit.