



How a Major International Airport Overcame the Distance Dilemma

Design Partner:

TLC Engineering Solutions

Location:

Tampa, FL USA

Industry segment:

Aviation, Parking

The Challenge: Connectivity at a Distance

When a major international airport in Florida designed and was building a new off-site rental car facility, it included an outdoor canopy for buses. This canopy would have to support all the usual airport services offering connectivity, including Wi-Fi, emergency phones, cameras, and various IP devices. The challenge was the canopy itself was very long and a great distance from the nearest telecom room.

Santiago Beron, a principal with TLC Engineering Solutions (TLC), and the IT team at the airport were considering various options for ensuring that the required connectivity and services would

be available. TLC is a multifaceted engineering firm headquartered in Orlando, FL with 19 offices spanning 10 states.

According to Beron, one option was to build an IDF outdoors, complete with enclosures, pedestals, and air conditioning – but as he put it – that would require having to spend “a ton of money.” Another option was to use fiber optics and media converters. And that’s what they decided to do. But about two months after the building opened and the fiber and media converters were installed, the WAP’s locked-up and could not be remotely reset.

The airport had to repeatedly send somebody there, get a ladder or a lift, go into the enclosure where the media converters were, unplug them and plug them back in again. Then, the WAPs would typically work for another few weeks or a couple of months, and inevitably lock up again. As Beron stated, “it became a maintenance nightmare.”



“It actually delivers - it works really well and serves a need that’s been unfulfilled for many years!” - Santiago Beron, TLC Engineering Solutions

A Game Changing Solution

Then Beron became aware of a cable that could go the extended distance – and potentially be a solution for this challenging situation. It was the Paige GameChanger® Cable, and it is the only patented long-distance CAT6 on the market. The GameChanger Cable would deliver twice the reach and quadruple the coverage area of traditional CAT6. This means projects could cost less, be completed faster, and do what was especially important here – remove potential points of failure.

First, Beron proposed the GameChanger solution to the IT team at the airport. The airport team agreed that GameChanger should be given a try – but they wanted to rigorously bench-test it first. After testing it for over a month, the GameChanger passed in every way – delivering solid and consistent performance – with the assurance of being backed up by a 25-year warranty for qualified installations.

“We pulled the fiber out, we put the GameChanger in, and it’s been working well ever since,” says Beron. And according to Santiago, that was just its beginning as a game changer. “It became a standard for a lot of applications at the airport where devices are too far away from a telecom room - and that happens a lot. In many cases, instead of building a telecom room, we use the GameChanger Cable.”

Extending Reach Again and Again

More recently, GameChanger Cable has been used

in another important project at a major international airport to provide a curbside expansion that would significantly increase the number of cars that can drop-off and pick-up passengers. This project had large canopies outfitted with IP devices like cameras and Automatic Vehicle Identification (AVI) readers that are used to track rideshare activity. Beron says, “We just used the GameChanger Cable, and we installed it right from the beginning. Now, half of the project has been completed and it’s been operating successfully for a while.”

Beron says that he is already working on a project at another major airport. “We’re going to have the same circumstances there. We are going to have some areas where we have a cable exceeding distance and we have already recommended GameChanger.”

Santiago Beron has over 28 years of specialized electronic systems design experience in sophisticated facilities, including airports, courthouses, and healthcare buildings. “I enjoy designing low voltage systems because there are always different challenges, and the technology keeps evolving so you never stop learning.” Being able to discover and deploy GameChanger Cable to solve a challenging problem is an example of this.

According to Beron, when it comes to GameChanger Cable, “there are many applications, and airports are not the only ones. When you have 10 to 12 drops exceeding distance, putting an IDF in for that is really expensive. And at that moment, you know that using GameChanger Cable becomes the most logical approach.”

GameChanger Part Numbers:
258310333 - Riser, Yellow w/ White Stripe
258300336 - Plenum, Blue w/ White Stripe
258300310- Plenum, White
258330804 - OSP, Black
258340804 - OSP Shielded, Black
258802404 - ITC-HL, Armored, Black

US Patent No.'s 10,453,589,
11,107,605, 11,562,835,

Contact Us
888-423-8947
www.paigedatcom.com/gamechanger

