

Case Study: Long-Range Outdoor Mesh Wi-Fi

The Korn Ferry Tour traveled to South Carolina for the 2023 BMW Charity Pro-Am presented by TD SYNNEX. Each year, the event occurs at Thornblade Club in Greenville and The Country Club of Spartanburg. TELECO, Inc. provides the networking technology and support for the PGA Tour®, media outlets, tournament operations, and the South Carolina Charities management team, along with vendor and spectator wireless networks in both locations.

Project Partners:

In 2023, Teleco partnered with TP-Link USA and Barracuda Networks, who donated the network equipment for the charity tournament.

Barracuda Networks is the MSP for Teleco and provides firewalls. TP-Link provided Omada network switches, bridges, access points, wireless controller hardware, and engineering support.

Project Goal:

Create a network using the existing 1 GB fiber in the Thornblade Club building and extend this to the 18th hole green. Thornblade could use its point-of-sale software (POS) and hardware by expanding the business network without needing a VPN or other configuration changes. Teleco was also tasked with reducing the installation costs from previous years for the charity event.

The Outcome:

"As promised, the TP-Link Pharos CPE710 bridge delivered high-speed data of ~750-800 Mbps, both up and down," said Steve Whaley, Data Solutions Manager at Teleco and project manager for the tournament.

"We experienced zero downtime, even during a few thunderstorms," stated Whaley. "The high-speed CAT6 network created from the receiving CPE710 bridge was successful and a vast improvement for POS operations over previous years of using coax cable internet speeds of 600 Mbps up and 30 Mbps down and a VPN."



Additionally, Teleco was tasked with creating a secure mesh wireless network for media, spectators, vendors, and the PA announcer around the 18th hole green.

To reduce the number of long CAT6 runs, the team installed two (2) point-to-point bridges using four (4) CPE710 devices mounted on the skybox poles. The transmit bridges were located near the control center underneath the BMW skybox. Spectrum provided the 600/35 coax cable internet.

The receiving bridges connected to TP-Link PoE switches (SG2210MP), which fed the access points (EAP660 HD), data and power that were located across the green inside the skyboxes.

The EAP660 HDs were configured for Mesh Wi-Fi connection to further accommodate the outdoor environment.



"The EAP660 HD APs worked flawlessly and, at times, supported approximately 1,500 spectators and support personnel with no issues," said Whaley. "The Omada and Pharos management software made the configuration and support of the devices a breeze."

"Teleco, Inc. is very appreciative of TP-Link for their generous donation and support of this BMW charity golf tournament," said Whaley, "We look forward to working together again next year."

"After the success of the 2023 BMW Charity Golf Tournament the host site, Thornblade Club, decided to make a change to their indoor and outdoor APs. Teleco installed over 30 Omada Access Points, created two more bridge connections and added one Omada 24-Port Switch (TL-SL2428P) and two Omada 52-Port Switches (TL-SG3452P). The 2024 tournament takes place June 3rd - 9th."



Project Hardware List:

Indoor & Outdoor Access Points

(5) EAP660 HD - Omada AX3600 High Density Multi-Gigabit Ceiling Mount Wi-Fi 6 Access Point Mix of (30) Additional EAP660 HD Indoor & EAP650 Outdoor Access Points

Outdoor Wireless Bridge

(4) CPE710 - Pharos 5GHz AC 867Mbps 23dBi Outdoor CPE

PoE Switches

- (1) SG2210MP JetStream 10-Port Gigabit Smart Switch with 8-Port PoE+
- (1) SG2008P JetStream 8-Port Gigabit Smart Switch with 4-Port PoE+
- (1) TL-SL2428P JetStream 24-Port 10/100 Mbps + 4-Port Gigabit Smart Switch with 24-Port PoE+
- (2) TL-SG3452P JetStream 52-Port Gigabit L2+ Managed Switch with 48-Port PoE+

Hardware Controller

(1) OC200 - Omada Hardware Controller

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For more information on the BMW Golf Charity Tournament, please visit: Charity Golf (bmwgroup-werke.com)

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For additional information on the TP-Link Omada SDN Solution, please visit https://www.tp-link.com/us/business-networking/ or contact us at B2BSales.USA@tp-link.com

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