TOSIBOX

Connect, Protect, Control: How Civitas Transformed Their OT Operations

> "The ability to remotely log into equipment or make changes is really a force multiplier, allowing one person to be in two places at once. It's powerful because it allows us to manage geographically diverse assets with limited IT overhead, avoiding the need for on-premise servers and jump servers. It also gives us the ability to securely control third-party access, saving costs on vendor travel time while improving operational efficiency."

CIVITAS

Nate Ferrara - IE and SCADA Consultant, Civitas Resources

Overview

Civitas Resources is an oil and natural gas exploration company based in Denver, Colorado. Recently expanding into the Permian Basin through multiple acquisitions, Civitas specializes in optimizing its opera-tions through advanced technology, including SCADA systems, to enhance efficiency and security.

Solving Operational Visibility and Network Security Challenges

Civitas Resources faced challenges managing secure connectivity and securing operational technology (OT) networks after acquiring new assets in the Permian Basin. Previously, cellular communications and SCADA system management were outsourced to third-party providers, creating inefficiencies in accessing and trou-bleshooting the network. The reliance on outsourced providers also slowed their ability to access devices in the field and led to security concerns, particularly when granting access to third parties. Additionally, the company needed to deploy solutions quickly in order to integrate newly acquired assets, which required a more flexible and cost-effective approach to secure connectivity and system management.

Transforming Operational Connectivity

Civitas turned to Tosibox® to address these challenges by replacing the third-party service provider with Tosibox to connect, protect, and control their OT environment. Making use of Tosibox's Hub and Lock devices they built a network spanning over 100 sites, that easily scales to inte-grate newly acquired assets when they come online. The solution allows internal employees to securely access remote devices to troubleshoot and change configurations, without relying on third parties or complex infrastructures like VPNs or jump servers.

This streamlined system made it possible for Civitas to avoid APN-related delays, gain flexibility by not being tied to a single cellular provider, and rapidly deploy across newly acquired assets. The implementation of Tosibox allowed Civitas to quickly integrate new as-sets into their centralized SCADA system, harmonizing operations and enhancing overall system security.

IMPACT AND BENEFITS

The key benefits of adopting Tosibox were its rapid deployment capabilities, the reduction of reliance on external contractors, and the significant cost savings, particularly in cellular communication and third-par-ty services. Moreover, the secure and flexible infrastructure supports the company's future growth through easy integration of new acquisitions, enhancing overall operational efficiency.

Faster Deployment

Reduced deployment time for over 100 remote sites, enabling Civitas to roll out the solution in less than six months, compared to over a year with alternative solutions.

Cost Savings

Avoided APN-related delays and dual SIM costs, saving on cellular carrier fees and reduc-ing the need for external vendor services, particularly for troubleshooting and device management.

Improved Security

Enabled secure connectivity without requiring jump servers or complex VPN con-figurations, enhancing overall security in the OT network.

Operational Efficiency

Remote troubleshooting and configuration capabilities reduced the need for on-site visits, saving valuable time and minimizing drive-related costs for both employees and contractors.

Scalable Integration

Facilitated seamless integration of newly acquired assets into Civitas' centralized SCADA system, enabling quick operational harmonization and data-driven decision-making.

Driving Growth and Innovation

In the future, Civitas Resources looks forward to leveraging the strengths of Tosibox to continue driving growth and efficiency in a rapidly evolving oil and gas industry. With a focus on mergers and acquisitions (M&A), Civitas aims to quickly integrate newly acquired assets into their standardized operational pro-cesses. By using Tosibox to simplify secure connectivity to SCADA systems and connect disparate systems into a unified platform, they can seamlessly absorb new fields and ensure consistent, data-driven op-erations across all assets. This integration will enhance their ability to compare production data across various fields and make more informed, strategic decisions regarding performance, capital expenditures, and resource allocation.

Additionally, Civitas plans to further harness the power of Tosibox in enabling more sophisticated data analytics and AI-driven insights. The ability to access data from newly acquired assets and integrate them with existing operations without lengthy delays or complex setups is key to their future success. As Tosibox continues to evolve, Civitas is particularly interested in exploring edge solutions, such as on-board processing for machine learning or optimization routines, which will enhance their ability to make real-time, data-driven decisions.

Ultimately, Civitas sees Tosibox as a vital tool for scalability, cost reduction, and operational efficiency, helping them stay competitive in the face of ongoing industry changes and growing data demands.

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