

## Colorado Department of Human Services Assures Wireless LAN Performance, Security and Compliance with AirMagnet

*AirMagnet wireless solution suite chosen for enterprise monitoring, management capabilities, regulatory compliance*

The Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS), the second largest agency in the Colorado state government, designs and delivers high-quality human services that help individuals, families and communities to be safe and independent.

CDHS oversees Colorado's 64 county departments of social/human services, its public mental health system, system of services for people with developmental disabilities, the state's juvenile corrections system and all state and veterans' nursing homes. The agency employs more than 6,000 people and has thousands of community-based service providers.

### Highlights

#### Industry

State government

#### Challenge

- Meet strict HIPAA regulatory requirements
- Enterprise-class monitoring and management that would support a statewide agency WLAN rollout
- Ability to manage WLAN in one dashboard to make securing, troubleshooting, and monitoring the WLAN simple and efficient

#### Solution



AirMagnet Enterprise

*"AirMagnet Enterprise allows us to be proactive in protecting and managing the network. If a problem does arise, we can quickly react and resolve it."*

Demetrius Stavropoulos  
Telecommunications professional at CDHS

### The Challenge

Technology deployments in state government are often driven by a need to meet strict regulatory requirements. For CDHS, that regulation is HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act) and it requires the use of privacy safeguards to ensure the security and confidentiality of individually identifiable health information. When the agency decided to deploy a wireless LAN (WLAN) to improve inter-office communication and workflow, it was vital to leverage solutions that ensured network performance and security. In fact, as a public sector government agency with records containing personal information for thousands of Colorado residents, ensuring the integrity of the wireless network was paramount.

To add to the wireless challenge, CDHS also needed enterprise-class monitoring and management capabilities that would support a planned statewide agency WLAN rollout. Once a WLAN is deployed, tracking rogue access points or devices, optimizing performance, troubleshooting radio interference, etc., can be extremely time consuming. CDHS was looking to leverage a product that integrated all the elements of WLAN management through one dashboard, thus providing complete visibility into the entire

network to make securing, troubleshooting, managing and monitoring the WLAN a simple, efficient task.

CDHS evaluated a number of potential solutions, including those from Fluke Networks and Cisco. None proved satisfactory. For example, previous attempts with products such as NetStumbler provided limited point-in-time reporting, and could not address the breadth of functionality required to effectively managed the agency's WLAN.

### The AirMagnet Solution

In order to address the demanding requirements associated with CDHS's WLAN, the agency selected AirMagnet Enterprise.

"We conducted a very comprehensive review of various offerings on the market and AirMagnet was the clear choice for us," said Demetrius Stavropoulos, telecommunications professional with CDHS. "We've deployed the product in our main administrative building, and it offers a tremendous set of capabilities that combine all the elements you need to deploy and manage a WLAN. From securing against threats to troubleshooting performance to

ensuring compliance, the product not only delivers tremendous functionality, but also gives you the tools necessary to understand the entire process.”

AirMagnet Enterprise enables CDHS to actively defend the WLAN against attacks, while also providing the broad management tools necessary to ensure high-performance wireless connections. The product can protect against rogue devices and more than 130 other threats with multiple layers of automated defenses. These threats are traced and blocked wirelessly, or at the wired port, and intrusion forensics can be saved for evidence and future analysis. CDHS can also view a physical map of its environment to pinpoint the exact location of every threat or performance problem.

And with HIPAA compliance being top-of-mind at CDHS, AirMagnet’s compliance reporting proved to be a critical factor – delivering step-by-step pass/fail assessments of every regulation element, including explanations of standards and reasons for non-compliance. “Ensuring the integrity of our records is vital for regulatory compliance. AirMagnet is a key component with its ability to deliver metrics, charts and information to verify we met our obligations,” noted Stavropoulos.

## Looking Ahead

CDHS plans to deploy additional wireless networks using AirMagnet Enterprise at various sites throughout Colorado, including the Colorado Mental Health Institute at Fort Logan and the Colorado Mental Health Institute at Pueblo.

“Bottom line – AirMagnet Enterprise allows us to be proactive in protecting and managing the network. If a problem does arise, we can quickly react and resolve it,” Stavropoulos stated.

---

### Corporate Headquarters

830 E. Arques Avenue  
Sunnyvale, CA 94085-4519 - United States  
Tel: +1.408.400.0200  
Fax: +1.408.744.1250

[www.airmagnet.com](http://www.airmagnet.com)

### EMEA Headquarters

St. Mary's Court, The Broadway, Amersham  
Buckinghamshire, HP7 0UT - United Kingdom  
Tel: +44.1494.582.023  
Fax: +44.870.139.5156

