



## CommView® Remote Agent: A Time Saver for Motorola®

### Case Study

#### Motorola Mesh Networking Technology

MeshNetworks Group, a division of Motorola, Inc., develops and deploys distributed meshed networks that break through the limitations of cell-based networks by bouncing RF signals between devices. Originally developed for battlefield communications, Motorola's MeshNetworks Enabled Architecture (MEA) is a technology that is typically implemented in two basic modes: infrastructure and/or client meshing. To gain the maximum benefit that meshing can offer, both modes must be supported simultaneously and seamlessly in a single network. MEA's infrastructure meshing creates a robust and scalable network, while client meshing enables end users to instantly form a broadband wireless network among themselves – with or without the inclusion of network infrastructure. As users join the network, network coverage and throughput increase.

Since MEA uses multiple devices scattered across the city area, Motorola's MeshNetworks Group was in need of a network monitoring solution that would allow it to perform remote packet captures on multiple devices.

#### Remote Network Analysis

Shane Carroll, Staff Engineer at MeshNetworks Group, tested CommView in conjunction with CommView Remote Agent in troubleshooting a city network and came to the conclusion that this package met his needs. The metro network included Nortel Networks OPTera products with a synchronous optical network (SONET) backbone. Shane Carroll says, "I install proprietary wireless equipment that relies on Access Points that would Proxy ARP for any device associated to them via the wireless side. When dealing with this scenario I had to filter for certain broadcasts to allow me to verify my Layer 2 Backbone on other wireless backhauls were good at differing points. To accommodate this, I appropriated multiple laptops and installed CommView Remote Agent on them. I had them dropped at specified test points so I could test the network. At one point, I also gathered the information using the same method from another state over a dialup VPN connection. "

Being a remote network probe, CommView Remote Agent allowed Motorola's engineers to capture network traffic from multiple remote locations where Remote Agent was running, regardless of the physical location of the laptops. Remote Agents were capturing and filtering packets, and then compressing and encrypting them before sending them securely over a TCP/IP link to the central location, where the packets were analyzed and displayed by CommView. This setup ensured excellent network visibility of the mesh being monitored.

#### Fast Payback

Eliminating the need to visit remote locations saved time and human resources for Motorola's engineers. While it could have been possible to install standard full-fledged software analyzers on each of the laptops and use remote desktop connection software to access the information, such a solution would have been far more expensive and much less convenient. CommView Remote Agent costs just a fraction of the cost of a full analyzer, requires minimum system resources, and allows the user to aggregate data at a single observation point.

According to Shane Carroll, "In my case, the remote endpoint was just invaluable and a real time saver. I found CommView when I was looking for a sniffer package that would allow me to perform remote captures on multiple devices. There is not another sniffer software package that will let you collect data from multiple sources remotely in the same price range."

### **About CommView**

CommView is a powerful network monitor and analyzer for Ethernet networks. Loaded with many user-friendly features, CommView combines performance and flexibility with an ease of use unmatched in the industry.

### **About TamoSoft**

TamoSoft develops cutting-edge security and network monitoring software for the Internet and Local Area Networks, providing clients with the ability and confidence to meet the challenges of tomorrow's technology. Keeping pace with industry trends, TamoSoft offers professional tools that support the latest standards, protocols, software, and hardware in both wired and wireless networks.