Tripp Lite Protects the Boulder Valley School District

SUMMARY

Customer
The Boulder Valley School District comprises 50 K-12 schools, serves approximately 28,500 students and supports more than 4,000 employees.

Goal
Protect a newly installed Avaya VoIP system from power-related downtime

Solution
SmartPro® Rack/Tower UPS System
• SMART2200RMXL2U
Monitored Power Distribution Unit
• PDUMNH15
Power Management Accessories
• ENVIROSENSE
• SNMPWEBCARD
External Battery Pack for UPS System
• BP48V24-2U
PowerAlert Network Management Software

Results
• No power-related disruption of services
• UPS protection for VoIP equipment enabled district-wide emergency communication during a prolonged power outage

Customer
Located in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains, the Boulder Valley School District comprises 50 K-12 schools over 500 square miles, from the peaks of the Continental Divide to the suburbs of Denver. It serves approximately 28,500 students and employs more than 4,000 faculty and staff.

Goal
After the Boulder Valley School District began installing a new Avaya VoIP solution throughout its schools and district buildings, IT Senior Operations Manager Dwight Reifsnyder found that the original vendor’s quote had omitted line items for power backup. With the switch to VoIP, it was critical to provide power to Main and Intermediate Distribution Facility phones during an electrical outage. Without it, an outage would eliminate all phone communication, including emergency calls to 911 for life safety issues and notification calls to parents in the event of a prolonged outage, early dismissal or early student pickup time.

After considering products from APC and Eaton/Powerware, Reifsnyder chose Tripp Lite because, he said, “Tripp Lite offered the best combination of price, performance, and excellent service.” He was impressed with the variety of product solutions available and with Tripp Lite’s ability to keep UPS protection consistent across the school district. “From a management and maintenance standpoint,” he noted, “using multiples of the same unit makes it easier for my team to replace and swap them out.” In addition, the Tripp Lite solutions suggested by Sales Representative Tim Simmons required that Reifnsyder keep only a few extra UPS systems and batteries on hand, which enabled him to economize on valued storage space.

Solution
SMART2200RMXL2U SmartPro® Rack/Tower UPS System
• Line-Interactive automatic voltage regulation (AVR) protects connected equipment from damage due to brownouts and overvoltages
• Includes USB and DB9 communication ports, SNMP slot and PowerAlert software for comprehensive power network management and control
• Integrated 3-bank PDU switching supports load shedding and remote reboot of connected equipment

PDUMNH15 Monitored Power Distribution Unit
• Distributes facility UPS or generator power to multiple outlets
• Digital current meter displays total power consumption, permitting maximum PDU utilization
• Ethernet network interface allows real-time remote monitoring and condition reporting, preventing overloads
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SNMPWEBCARD Web Management Accessory Card
• Enables the UPS to be remotely controlled as a managed device on the network
• Provides remote viewing of site electrical data, UPS self-test and alert logs, electrical problems and more
• Permits remote reboots of locked devices without interrupting power to other loads

ENVIROSENSE Environmental Sensor
• Connects to the Tripp Lite SNMPWEBCARD
• Enables remote temperature/humidity monitoring in network environments
• Monitors and controls alarm, security and telecom devices through a dry-contact interface

POWERALERT Network Management Software
• Reduces deployment time through mass-configuration of multiple remote device settings from a single location and auto-discovery of UPS and PDU devices in specific network segments or IP address ranges
• Reduces troubleshooting time by pooling all network alarms into a single, sortable, easy-to-read list
• Monitors any UPS or switched PDU with a USB or serial connection via SNMP
• Informs managers of network power conditions through emails and SNMP traps, enabling proactive problem management before productivity is affected
• Enables reboot of locked devices or preserved runtime for more critical equipment via remote power outlet control

Results
With the VoIP system at Boulder Valley School District fully protected by Tripp Lite, Dwight Reifsnyder reported that the new system has kept communication in place when it would otherwise have gone down.

“Tripp Lite products have performed exactly as hoped,” he said. “When a prolonged power outage necessitated early dismissal, we were able to maintain communication with parents.” Reifsnyder went on to let us know of the district’s satisfaction with Tripp Lite, “Tripp Lite offered the best overall value for the district with their mix of price, performance and customer service.”