

Lumen and Cradlepoint deliver 5G backup networking solution for retail transformation

Grocery retailer uses 5G to maintain connectivity at multiple locations



About the customer

- Grocery retailer
- Multiple locations in US southeast
- Engaged in company-wide IT transformation

Challenges

- Needed to upgrade aging network architecture
- Lacked high-speed backup connectivity
- Required cost-effective solution across multiple sites
- Increased visibility and management

Solutions

- Cradlepoint Adapter W1850-5G
- Lumen Equipment Solutions

Results

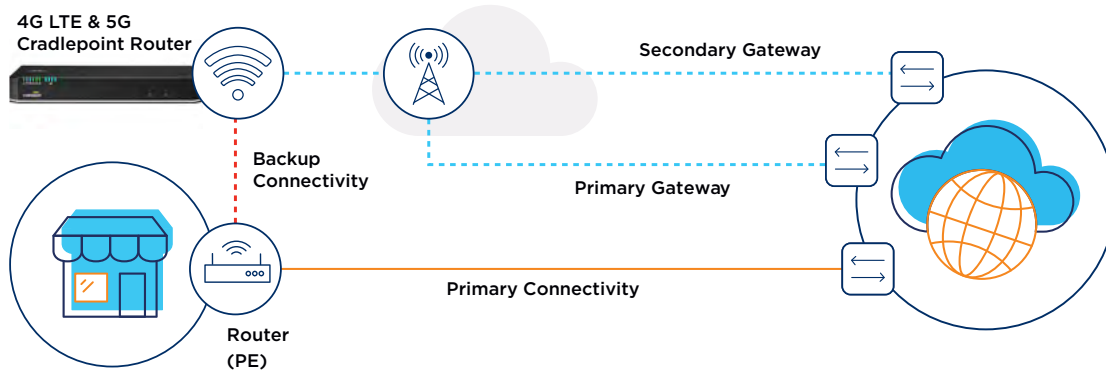
- Failover connectivity in stores
- Advanced analytics available to store managers
- Reliable access to internet and applications access

“Lumen’s introduction of Cradlepoint’s 5G connectivity solution allows this national grocer to future proof its IT infrastructure while providing real-time analytics to each store manager and remote out-of-band management to support hundreds of stores from a centralized location. The connectivity transformation allows for increased efficiencies and decreased costs.”

— Alan Scheik, Senior Partner Account Manager for Cradlepoint



Wireless backup service: Illustration



Challenge

Modernize aging infrastructure at remote locations

The retail industry is largely shaped by chains of stores under the same brand. These chains can be national or regional in scope and they have many similar IT requirements since each store needs access to the same applications.

As part of a corporate initiative, a grocery retailer in the US southeast sought to upgrade aging infrastructure at its hundreds of locations. Many of those sites are in places that are vulnerable to hurricanes. That potential threat placed a high priority on backup network connections that could ensure resiliency. They specified automatic failover to 5G infrastructure in the event of primary network outage.

Because hurricane season was approaching, they needed vendors that could act quickly.



Solution

Lumen and Cradlepoint adapters provide robust network backup

Lumen Equipment Solutions installed Cradlepoint Adapter W1850-5G in each specified location. The units are configured to select the best connectivity pathway when primary network connections are disrupted. They are specifically geared to use 5G cellular infrastructure when available, defaulting to other LTE services elsewhere.

The installations were part of a larger Lumen effort to improve data center capacity and connections to the retail sites. Lumen's ability to act as a one-stop shop for equipment and services made the transition easier for the customer. As partners, Lumen and Cradlepoint worked together to configure the adapter units in the stores.

Lumen Solution Set

- Lumen Equipment Solutions
- Cradlepoint Adapter W1850-5G

Results

Resilient connectivity and new management features

The Cradlepoint adapters provide the backup capability each store needs. In addition, store managers can access advanced analytics such as the unit's Out of Band Management facility that ensures access to all network components.

This large grocery chain now has enhanced business continuity capability. They will be able to serve customers even under adverse conditions.

