



LUMBER MILL ADDS WIRELESS ALERT SYSTEM

THE SCENARIO

Pete Carter, technical manager at the Roseburg Forest Products softwood plywood mill in Coquille, Oregon was faced with not only improving safety for employees, but also protecting the huge 700,000 square foot physical plant from the dangerous effects of fire. This task was becoming more and more challenging as a frail, inadequate alerting system was quickly degrading.



The existing system of four strategically located and hard-wired emergency alert buttons were tied in series, meaning if one failed, they all failed. "If one of these alert buttons went down, then the whole system was down, requiring from a few hours to a few weeks to implement a fix," noted Pete. "I had one button to send a message to our radio-equipped personnel indicating an injury had taken place, and another button to press in case of a fire, so you can see that these were critical to the safety of our operation," he added.

Pete needed not only an alerting system that was reliable, but he also needed to multiply the number of call button stations to cover the immense square footage more adequately.

THE SOLUTION

Pete's supplier of radio-based products is Day Wireless based in Milwaukie, Oregon. It was suggested that Pete contact the radio technology manufacturer Ritron for engineering expertise to help provide a solution. The engineering staff listened to Pete's requirement regarding emergency and non-emergency needs around the plant (like "need an electrician" or "machine down") and suggested a creative solution.

Ritron presented Pete with a virtually off-the-shelf solution that, based on a change in switch condition, will broadcast pre-recorded custom messages to a radio network. Four inputs for switches or sensors are available, so in this case, when a button is pressed a custom, pre-recorded voice message is transmitted along with location information to all radio-equipped personnel.

Virtually any sensor input can be accommodated, and Pete realized its usefulness for emergency call buttons for use inside his plant. And, with its affordability, Pete could increase the number of emergency call stations throughout the plant.



TECHNICAL MANAGER IMPROVES SAFETY

Learn how Pete Carter, technical manager at the Roseburg Forest Products softwood plywood mill in Coquille, Oregon used the Ritron QuickTalk™ voice alerting transmitter to improve safety throughout the 700,000 square foot plant. The QuickTalk™ is Designed and Made in the USA.



For more information, visit www.ritron.com; call 800-872-1872; email ritron@ritron.com; or write to Ritron, Inc. at 505 W. Carmel Drive, Carmel, IN 46032.

THE RESULTS

This inspired Pete to develop a panel equipped with four call buttons, which he then wired to the Ritron QuickTalk™ voice alerting transmitter inputs. One input is used to call for an electrician, one for a millwright, one indicates “man down” for an injury, and one button is to alert for fire.

Pete built 25 separate call alerting stations, equipped with his panel of buttons connected to a QuickTalk transmitter. When one of the four alert buttons is pressed, the transmitter sends a clear, specific recorded message to radio-equipped personnel along with the exact location of the originating call station.

According to Pete, "Employees are finding that summoning for help is easy and clear. Prior to this solution, we were using hand held radios in the loud environment, which is a problem."



Call stations are located throughout the operation and include color-coded buttons that activate custom two-way radio alert messages for fire, injury, electrician needed, and millwright needed.

The recorded message has no background noise, so the transmission is clear and easy to understand.

Response times have been drastically improved due to the efficiency of the new system. Frustration with the legacy system has been eliminated, since each call station and QuickTalk transmitter is independent.

FEATURES & SPECIFICATIONS

QuickTalk™ Voice Alerting Radio Transmitter

- **Monitor Any Switch or Sensor:** Emergency Buttons, Temperature, Level, Moisture, Tamper / Vandal, Motion, etc.
- Monitor Up To 4 Switch Inputs.
- Models: UHF 450-470MHz, VHF 150-165MHz, VHF MURS License-Free Business Use.
- Battery or AC Powered.
- Analog, Narrow Band Only (12.5kHz) Operation.
- 120mW and 2 Watt Models Available.
- Multi-Channel/Frequency Capability. Each input can be programmed to transmit on a different frequency, (e.g. Input 1 transmits on the Maintenance channel; Input 2 Security; Input 3 Operations etc.).
- Optional, Internal, 433MHz UHF Receiver. Receiver allows remote key fob* activation (e.g. Emergency Call Button) from up to a few hundred feet away.
- Typical Range: One half mile to a handheld radio using the standard flexible antenna. Greater range is possible if optional antenna (RAM-1545), or a radio repeater is used.
- Easy to record voice messages.
- PC Programmable.
- Designed and Assembled In The USA.

**Optional remote key fob shown here.*



When switch input is triggered, custom voice message is instantly transmitted to radio-equipped staff.



RESELLER RESOURCES

See www.ritron.com/reseller-resources.

Visit www.ritron.com; call 800-872-1872; email ritron@ritron.com; or write to Ritron, Inc. at 505 W. Carmel Drive, Carmel, IN 46032.



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