

How Your Tank Monitors are Affected by the Upcoming AT&T 2G GSM “Sunset” Activities

On January 1, 2017, AT&T will shut down (or sunset) its 2G GSM services, including both GPRS and EDGE packet-data. This shut down requires replacing an estimated 10 million GSM devices on AT&T's network before the service is removed. Although some companies have already sought other solutions, many organizations have yet to address this issue. Companies using AT&T's 2G GSM services must create and execute a plan to replace devices quickly in order to minimize disruption for their customers.

Why Now?

Recently, carriers such as AT&T have seen huge increases in the number of smartphones and a dramatic rise in packet-data use. A recent study, “Cisco Visual Networking Index Mobile Forecast, 2013” shows that mobile data traffic is projected to grow worldwide from 0.9 ExaBytes/month in 2012 to 11.2 ExaBytes/month by 2017. This has forced carriers to improve capacity overall and they are doing that by redeploying current spectrum and acquiring additional spectrum. The redeployment is what is causing some of the angst in the market today.

Call to Action

The GSM sunset is a major issue for the IoT / M2M industry because such large numbers of GSM/GPRS devices have been deployed to date. To maintain service, up to 10 million 2G GSM devices must be replaced in about one year or less, as some markets may experience the shutdown in the last months of 2016.

Assuming 250 working days a year, the IoT / M2M industry must replace a staggering 40,000 devices per day, starting immediately. To address this, companies must rapidly develop and execute comprehensive plans, including new products from suppliers, detailed installation schedules, along with training and customer notifications.

What are Your Tank Monitoring Options?

ATEK Access Technologies offers the industry leading TankScan tank monitoring system brand of products, none of which are sitting on the AT&T 2G GSM network. TankScan products are readily available and meet the needs of nearly every light industrial liquid tank monitoring application out there today. With our unique set of hardware, web portal, services and support, TankScan is here ready to assist you with replacing current hardware affected by the 2G sunset or work with you on new tank monitoring opportunities. ATEK brings years of experience with thousands of installations as well as competitive pricing and lease options to help you fully realize your ROI.

For information about ATEK Access Technologies' options for IoT / M2M deployments of every size, visit www.TankScan.com or for immediate assistance call **1-800-523-6696**.