



Municipalities in Skåne choose the intelligent network of the future

The network of the future – is already here. Five municipalities in Skåne are currently building a network based on Huawei WiFi 6 technology. The unusual cooperation between municipalities is already a pilot project that has attracted the attention of the outside world.

PEDAB

“It’s an amazing journey we have begun. The technology makes it possible to keep numerous devices connected to the WiFi 6 network and also with high security, concludes Roger Nord, IT infrastructure manager of the collaboration unit for the five municipalities. The new technology also makes it possible to automate a variety of services and get access to the network.”

The five Skåne municipalities Bjuv, Klippan, Perstorp, Åstorp and Örkelljunga all agreed on a unique IT cooperation and created the joint IT 4K unit. The procurement of new technology resulted in the IT integrator Proact being chosen to start building the wireless network in the five municipalities using technology from Huawei.

As a supplier to Proact, the IT company Pedab has been coordinating in the initial phase of the network construction. With its cutting-edge expertise in Huawei technology, Pedab has been there for support after the procurement was completed.

– From the beginning, we received good support in the important build-up by Marcus Romfors at Pedab, says Roger Nord. It is important to have someone with high Huawei skills at the heart of things in this type of pilot project.

Already at an early stage, we saw improvements with the new wireless network. About 30 access points and switches were set up in the community centre Sågen (the Sawmill) in Klippan. The old sawmill challenges the technology, partly because of the unusually thick walls. The building is now largely used for various leisure activities for both children and adults in Klippan.

– WiFi 6 is one of our building blocks towards our goal, which is a more intelligent service-based network, says Roger Nord.

For the five northern Skåne municipalities with a total population of 67,000, the scalable network will be a major step into the future. The WiFi 6 network is best suited for schools and kindergartens, where users have an average of three devices per person. Proact and Pedab have signed a three-year contract with the IT 4K unit, with the possibility of extension.

– The project is very close to my heart, says Marcus Romfors, business developer at Pedab. We have had the privilege of being involved from the moment the plans began to take shape. Now it will be exciting to see how the project evolves, this will be the IT of the future.

– The collaboration works very well so far and we look forward to developing it further together, concludes Joakim Öjning, Account Manager at Proact.



Challenge

The five municipalities Bjuv, Klippan, Perstorp, Åstorp and Örkelljunga saw that greater network capacity and bandwidth, especially within the schools, was required. The old technology had limitations, especially from the growing development of high-resolution video. The municipalities had different solutions from different suppliers so the first step was to find out what products and network solutions each municipality had.



Solution

Thanks to the creation of a joint IT unit – IT 4K – for the five municipalities in Skåne, it was also possible to carry out a cross-municipal procurement of the network of the future. The IT companies Proact and Pedab were able to offer the new WiFi 6 technology from Huawei, with up to four times higher capacity compared to WiFi 5. A unified environment and supplier was created to be able to control and manage the environment in the best way.



Results

Over a three-year period, started in January 2020, nearly 1,000 Huawei CloudEngine switches and 1,400-2,500 access points will be set up in the five municipalities. Already at the initial phase of the implementation, the IT 4K unit has seen a clear improvement in network capacity.