

e-Government infrastructure from PAV



The Central Informatics Organisation (CIO) is the body responsible for regulating IT within the Bahrain Government. CIO's General Directorate of Information Technology (GDIT) are the custodians of many major Government systems and as well as operating the Government Data Network (GDN), they also offer facilities management from the operations centre based in Juffair.

The basic architecture for the GDN was developed in 1995-6, and implementation began in late 1996. The first connection went live in March 1997 and the associated Network Operations Centre (GDNOC) became on-line in 1998. By December 1998 the GDN had more than 60 government sites connected. Today the GDN connects nearly 200 sites distributed all over Bahrain.

The availability of the centrally managed Government Data Network (GDN), to transport data reliably and securely between different locations, is now fundamental to most new government IT projects.

As a result of the success of the GDN, and continuous traffic growth since its inception, the original GDN/GDNOC design has become increasingly stretched. Therefore in order to continue to provide the best possible quality of service to customers a major update programme for the GDN has been approved and is now underway.

AlMoayed Telecom, part of the AlMoayed Group, is PAV's partner in the Kingdom of Bahrain. Founded in 1982, AlMoayed is the largest IT & Telecom Solutions Provider in Bahrain representing a number of major IT infrastructure manufacturers including PAV. With operations in Kenya, India, Afghanistan and Iran and successful installations in the banking, health, oil, aviation and government sectors, AlMoayed are working with PAV to develop and broaden their customer base across the region.

In July 2002, AlMoayed successfully won a contract for the supply and installation of 2 wireless and 9 infrared links using communication equipment manufactured by DMC and PAV. These links were installed by November 2002, and now provide high-speed connections, linking Cisco 3550 switches at the backbone sites to Cisco 6509 switches at two central sites, these being at central Informatics Organisation and Ministry of Finance and National Economy.

Following a professional partnership and team approach, PAV and AlMoayed demonstrated the ability to meet the demanding requirements of the Government Sector and CIO Government Data Network.

PAV's 100 Mb/s Fast Ethernet High Speed SNMP Manageable Solution has delivered the answer to CIO's requirements to connect remote locations in the GDN delivering higher bandwidth than they can currently achieve from other sources. Following the success of the initial roll out, the CIO are looking to link further locations into the network, enabling the roll out of the 100Mb/s bandwidth to a number of Ministries quickly and simply.

PAV's Country Manager for Middle East and North Africa, Ayman Al Saffan, commented "PAV are proud to have been selected by CIO to implement the GDN's 2nd phase after the success and results of Phase 1. The demanding and testing requirements of the CIO with regards to security, reliability, availability and management are testament to the capability and functionality of the PAV equipment. Working with AlMoayed demonstrates that a trained and professional partner is a key element in delivering quality PAV solutions to the end user. AlMoayed and PAV are exploring new projects deploying PAV's Gigabit Ethernet Solutions and the new PAVLight generation of systems from PAV. Geographically, they are looking to develop their successful partnership to emerging markets in Iran and Afghanistan."