

Delivering 5G with Dual-Use Streetlight Poles

Denver, CO

SCENARIO

As communities roll out 5G nationwide, increasing bandwidth and densifying networks were top priorities in Denver, Colorado. Streetlight infrastructure offered an opportunity for increasing network capacity while also collocating small cells and upgrading the city's lighting.

SOLUTION

To help build Denver's 5G network, Xcel Energy selected the Comptek Technologies' CityPole® smart pole for its modularity, flexibility, and track record of hundreds of seamless installations across the metropolitan area with minimal downtime. With a pole-ordering strategy designed to streamline the process and address deployment and delivery challenges, Comptek deployed, engineered, manufactured, and delivered an integrated pole solution within eight weeks of the order.

"We have carefully calibrated with Comptek when the orders are issued, and when the poles are fabricated and delivered to our contractor's bucket," said Tony DiCamillo, small cell project manager for Xcel Energy. "As a result, our contractor is installing between twenty-four and thirty poles per week, which is notable and unheard of."

Xcel Energy and Comptek also communicated with city leaders and residents to address deployment questions or concerns.

RESULT

Xcel Energy has deployed more than 150 dual-use streetlight poles in 2019, an additional 350 in 2020, and over 620 in 2021. The project has expanded statewide to municipalities including Aurora, Boulder, and Grand Junction.

"We couldn't be more pleased with this project and that we were able to deliver a best-in-class, dual-use streetlight product. **We're proud of this project's success.**"

– Ed Biegging, Vice President of Utility Relations,
Aero Wireless Group