

Case Study

Client: Privately Owned Airport with Federal Contracts

Industry: Aviation, Transportation, and Government Contracting

Synopsis

This privately owned airport holds critical federal contracts. When they were advised that their existing systems did not meet the federal compliance requirements needed to maintain those contracts, leadership knew immediate action was required.

Through a trusted referral, they engaged Golden Hills IT to modernize their technology, strengthen cybersecurity, and ensure full compliance with federal regulations—without disrupting day-to-day airport operations.

Challenges

The airport faced several serious obstacles:

- **Compliance Risk** – Their technology environment was not aligned with federal security standards, putting their contracts at risk.
- **Aging Infrastructure** – Outdated computers, limited network capacity, and insufficient Wi-Fi coverage hindered efficiency.
- **Fragmented Communication** – Email accounts spread across EarthLink and Network Solutions made communication inconsistent and unsecure.
- **Limited Internet Options** – No access to cable or fiber internet, with existing phone lines and services becoming increasingly expensive.

Golden Hills IT Solution

We designed and executed a full modernization plan to bring the airport into compliance, improve operational efficiency, and create a secure, scalable IT environment for future growth.

Key solutions included:

- **Full System & Network Upgrade** – Replaced outdated computers and provided new laptops, upgraded network infrastructure, and expanded Wi-Fi coverage by running Cat6 cabling to a shielded area.
- **Cybersecurity & Compliance** – Implemented security measures based on industry standards, ensuring all systems meet federal contract requirements.
- **Microsoft 365 Migration** – Created individual Microsoft accounts, migrated all email from EarthLink and Network Solutions (including historic messages), and siloed accounts for improved security.
- **Collaboration Tools** – Set up Microsoft Teams and SharePoint for secure, seamless document sharing.
- **User Training** – Delivered staff training and ongoing user awareness training to reduce human error and strengthen security culture.
- **VOIP Implementation** – Transitioned the airport to a modern voice over IP system, saving hundreds of dollars compared to rising AT&T; POTS line costs.
- **Improved Internet Access** – Assisted in the installation of Starlink satellite internet to improve connectivity

where traditional broadband was unavailable, after evaluating but declining costly cable/fiber options.

Results

Since partnering with Golden Hills IT, the airport has achieved:

- Full compliance with all federal requirements to maintain and expand government contracts.
- Faster systems, broader Wi-Fi coverage, and seamless collaboration tools.
- Significant telecom savings through VOIP and more efficient internet solutions.
- Ongoing cybersecurity protections and user awareness training that keep risks low.
- Expanded federal contracting work and plans for continued growth with our managed IT services.

By delivering compliance, modern infrastructure, and reliable ongoing support, Golden Hills IT has positioned this airport for long-term operational success and continued expansion in federal contracting.



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