

CASE STUDY

Columbus Regional Airport Authority

Situation

The Columbus Regional Airport Authority (CRAA) operates three airports in Central Ohio: the Port Columbus International Airport which offers nearly 150 daily flights to over 30 destinations and serves more than 6 million passengers annually; the Rickenbacker International Airport, a cargo-focused airport that also offers chartered flights by Allegiant Air, and Bolton Field, which offers general aviation services including flight training, aircraft charters, recreational flying and more. Electronic functionality is a crucial element of daily operations at CRAA's three airport facilities and is vital to maintaining both schedules and safety.

Strategy

Supporting security and surveillance systems, gate and flight information systems, the CRAA data center is critical to the daily operational processes of all three airports and the businesses that operate within them. In 2013, the airport authority installed two new UPSs and a Cellwatch battery monitoring system to ensure availability of systems and long-term power reliability for the entire airport infrastructure. Data center engineers knew with the increasing growth of the airport, UPS testing alone was not going to be sufficient to ensure uptime. Cell level monitoring and alert with Cellwatch would provide the assurance they needed.

Results

When the new UPSs went online, Cellwatch immediately triggered an alarm indicating a bad battery. Without Cellwatch, engineers would not have known their new backup power supply had faulty batteries until another scheduled preventative maintenance occurred. Cellwatch gained instant credibility, proving how valuable it is in preventing outages, and ultimately paying for itself on day one by averting what could have been an operational disaster.



“Many organizations hope their UPS will function as intended, but in this data center, we operate with certainty. We rely on Cellwatch to alert us to any potential issues with our batteries.”

RYAN STEELE
Senior Network Engineer, Technology Services—CRAA