

Case Study

DELIVERING equipment in a

July 2021 saw widespread flooding in Europe, leaving a trail of destruction in Germany and neighboring countries, with the Ahr Valley feeling the worst of the effects. A consequence of the flooding was the destruction of homes, businesses, and key infrastructure. The floods impacted hundreds of cell sites, leaving hundreds of thousands in the region without connectivity which is more important than ever in the face of a crisis.

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The challenges

Operators in the regions rapidly deployed engineers to fix sites, getting mobile coverage back up and running; however, a stopgap was needed. Operators needed a solution that would allow mobile coverage to be delivered in the short term to ensure the region had the necessary connectivity to aid the emergency response. The answer was temporary cell sites that could be introduced quickly to return mobile connectivity to the area.

The temporary masts needed to be designed and assembled quickly before being transported to key sites in need of coverage. There are multiple challenges involved in this, but a key issue faced by installers as they looked to deploy the temporary sites was the needed bespoke cable lengths.

The solution

Bespoke cable lengths would usually take 6-8 weeks from the point of order to delivery; however, with manufacturing facilities only 300km away in Hannover, RFS was able to fast-track this process. After discussing the specific design requirements for the temporary masts, RFS was able to manufacture bespoke cable and deliver it to site quickly, ensuring the deployment was not delayed due to lack of equipment availability.

Fast

The nature of the project meant speed of delivery was essential. RFS was able to turn the project around, condensing consultation, design, manufacturing, and delivery into **a few days** to meet the needs of the customer.

Bespoke

RFS's facility in Germany meant that manufacturing schedules could be altered to deliver a short run of the **bespoke cables** needed with minimal issues for the end customer.

Local

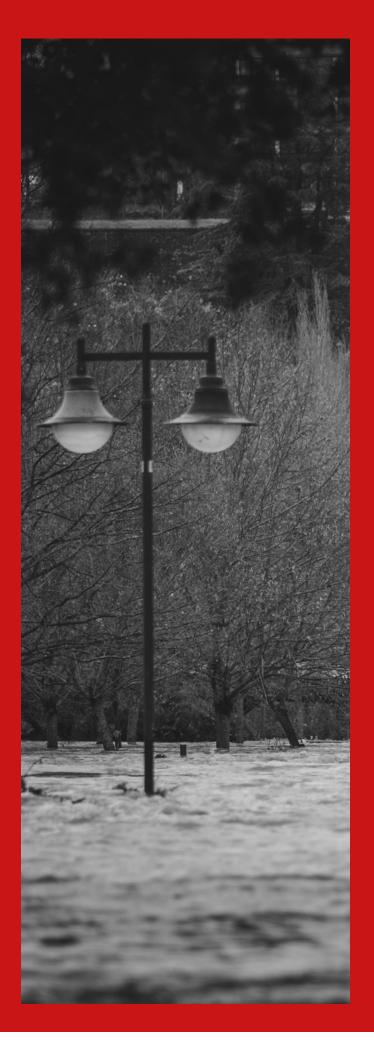
RFS is a global organization with local manufacturing and distribution centers around the world, providing customers the **scale and expertise** of a large global company, with the **customer service** and convenience of a local business.

The result

The temporary mobile masts deliver much-needed connectivity to the region during the immediate response to the flooding allowing the permanent infrastructure to be repaired and replaced.

Alongside this project, RFS solutions are also used every day by German Emergency Services to ensure constant connectivity between urgent responders. The mission-critical systems allow Fire Departments, Police and Ambulances, along with the volunteer-led THW (Technisches Hilfswerk) to remain informed and therefore work as safely and efficiently as possible at all times.

At RFS we have experience in mission critical and emergency comms and support this in Germany year-round, but we do not usually need to deliver on an emergency timeline. However, the capabilities and flexibility we have with a Germany-based manufacturing facility meant we were uniquely placed to manufacture to specification exactly the solution needed and deliver it as quickly as possible. We are incredibly proud to have been able to lend a helping hand and deliver equipment so quickly where it was urgently needed. 35





Lifetime Connectivity

At RFS we specialize in the design and manufacture of premium, future-ready cable solutions for customers across the globe. With over 120 years of heritage in the industry, we build reliable and long service life connectivity systems. Because we care about our collective future.

- We design innovative cable solutions that deliver best-in-class connectivity while tackling network pain points and offering a lower Total Cost of Ownership.
- We bring passion and expertise at every stage, from R&D to installation, to meet our business partners' expectations.
- We deliver the communications foundation for digital transformation across a range of industries including oil & gas, mining, and rail.
- We are changing the perception that all cable is created equal and demonstrating the potential of premium solutions.
- We offer a dynamic and stimulating working environment that promotes diversity and fosters personal and collective accomplishments.
- We are committed to sustainability with greener manufacturing processes and designing long-life equipment with low-energy consumption to support our customers' climate goals.