

When Desert Mountain Properties began carving target-style golf courses out of the Arizona desert, their water control system failed repeatedly, jeopardizing thousands of acres of precious turf. Since they hired Micro-Comm, Brent has a system that delivers technology and service he says you can't put a dollar figure on.



photo courtesy of Desert Mountain Properties

Like water in the desert, dependability like Micro-Comm's is priceless.

Maintain five lush, green golf courses in the middle of the Arizona desert.

It's a tall order. But it's what Brent Mitrisin does on a daily basis.

As assistant senior agronomist for Desert Mountain Properties, Brent is responsible for maintaining five Jack Nicklaus-designed golf courses in Scottsdale, AZ, where temperatures can reach 110 degrees and annual rainfall averages less than eight inches.

So it's clear why water is so important. And, why he sings the praises of Micro-Comm's efficient, dependable water control system.

"Water is critical to our operation, and our system is intricate. We have 9,700 acres and use up to 4 million gallons a day. Our Micro-Comm system handles it all with great ease," Brent said.

To irrigate the fairways and greens, water is pumped from nine lakes and two surge ponds via five irrigation pump stations. Consistent water levels in the course's lakes are maintained by seven additional pump stations.

But, things didn't always work so smoothly. Desert Mountain's previous system was hard-wired through the desert.

"There were lots of problems with wires rotting from heat, sun or rain," Brent explained. "Sometimes we had to use measuring sticks in the lakes to figure how much water we would need that night. Since Micro-Comm installed their radio telemetry system, we have had virtually no

communications problems — and it's so easy to operate.

"With the click of the mouse, we can check run time hours, lake levels and histories, pump flow and pretty much any alarm or event status, right on the computer screen," Brent said. "And, I have a portable data unit that lets me monitor the system from anywhere on the property."

When they do have a question or problem, Brent says Micro-Comm handles that with ease, as well.

"Any part is fully covered by their 5-year warranty, no questions asked," he said, "and they can have them here the next day. Plus, with PC Anywhere, our Micro-Comm project manager and I can access the system at the same time, by phone, and work through problems."

For Brent, there's real peace of mind knowing Micro-Comm's top-notch staff are standing by.

"You can't really put a dollar figure on it, but if the system doesn't work, we could lose literally millions of dollars worth of property," Brent explained. "So finding the right people and building a working relationship is priceless."

To find out how Micro-Comm can provide you with invaluable knowledge and service, give us a call at **(913) 390-4500**.

"They're dependable, honest, and down to earth. When you're the guy making the recommendation to spend \$100,000, you're putting yourself on the line. So, knowing these guys are going to be with you from start to finish, that's priceless."

*—Brent Mitrisin,
assistant senior
agronomist*

Micro-Comm's control system creates an oasis in the Arizona desert.

How Micro-Comm helped Desert Mountain Properties create a reliable control system that keeps five golf courses lush and green—and lakes full—in the middle of the Arizona desert.

Client

- Desert Mountain Properties, Scottsdale, AZ
- An upscale, five-golf-course community carved out of the Arizona desert

Problem

- Achieving consistent water levels in lakes to maintain the beauty of the golf courses
- Determining accurate amounts of water to order from the City of Scottsdale to meet large irrigation requirements
- Providing consistent monitoring over five golf courses so turf grasses thrive in their desert environment

Special challenges

- Designing an aesthetically pleasing equipment installation, blending the equipment to be compatible with the community's luxury homes
- Utilizing relatively small lakes to meet substantial irrigation needs, in an arid climate

Logistics

- 5 target-style golf courses on 9,700 acres
- 9 lakes and 2 surge ponds, covering approximately 1,800 acres
- 5 irrigation pump stations
- 7 pump stations to transfer water from lake to lake

Solution

- Utilized Micro-Comm manufactured remote units, central unit, portable data unit, and SCADAview to develop a complete Motorola radio-based SCADA system

Tactics

- Introduced radio telemetry to eliminate the problems experienced with previously hardwired system. Over the course of several years, expanded the system capabilities to match system requirements and to grow as new golf course were added.

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| ■ C2000 Central Unit | ■ Dell Computers |
| ■ S3000 Remote Unit | ■ SCADAview software |
| ■ Portable Data Unit | ■ SCADAdial software |
| ■ Pressure Transducer | ■ SCADAgraphics software |
| ■ Motorola Radius Radios | |



No more guess work. With Micro-Comm screens like this one, Desert Mountain personnel can easily monitor their entire operation at a glance, identifying which pumps are running and what current lake levels are, in real time.

MICROCOMM

“Where creativity and technology converge”

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Results

- Peace of mind for golf course agronomists, maintenance personnel and property managers
- Accurate ordering of water for day-to-day irrigation
- Increased ability to monitor events and alarms—on and off site
- Quick response to any problems which occur