

Overview

DF&I Dark Fiber and Infrastructure, LLC (“DF&I”) is a pure play wholesale provider of dark fiber and conduit networks to carriers and enterprise customers and is a registered CLEC in multiple markets. The company was founded in 2017 and focuses on facilitating hyperscale access to key peering markets in the U.S.

Hylan is a leading provider of full-service turnkey communications solutions, electrical infrastructure design and construction services for wireline, wireless and smart city municipal services across the United States. Hylan is the parent company to four divisions that include Hylan Datacom & Electrical, Hylan West, Down Under Construction and Western Utility. Hylan Companies provide an array of comprehensive services, which include communications and electrical infrastructure design, DAS and small cell installations, engineering, construction and maintenance services, and more. Originally founded as Hylan Datacom & Electrical over 60 years ago in New York City, Hylan now serves a wide variety of end markets throughout the U.S., with current offices and facilities in New York, New Jersey, Arizona, California, Illinois, Iowa, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Utah and Virginia. Supported by private equity firms Flexis Capital and TZP Capital Partners to accelerate its growth strategy, Hylan plans for additional expansions throughout the U.S. in 2021 and beyond.

Challenge

DF&I set out to build a brand new, 85-mile fiber build from Ashburn, Virginia, through Arcola, and on to Manassas. This new fiber route brings additional connectivity and scale to one of the world’s premier cloud and data center markets. This will be the most direct, low latency, 100% underground connection between the I-95 corridor south of Baltimore through Ashburn, utilizing the unique Potomac River Crossing north of Ashburn. A new fiber route is imperative to such a high-demand area, where creating diversity and scalability contributes to global and national connection abilities.

Solution

Hylan’s Down Under Construction (DUC) division has the experience and local area knowledge necessary for a project of this magnitude. Its deeply experienced team has performed numerous projects of this nature and scale and is based in the area (Virginia / Maryland), giving them a keen understanding of the local geography and terrain. This allows the team to carry out the installation with no guesswork, eliminating bottlenecks associated with permitting and terrain navigation challenges.

DF&I selected DUC as the prime contractor for the project, expanding the companies’ existing relationship taking on projects in the Northern Virginia and Baltimore area spanning over 20 years. The DUC team has been providing the premium labor resources to successfully install the project’s conduit, handholes and fiber optic cable to create the new route.

Overall, Down Under’s vast experience and knowledge has made this project a success and further strengthens the company’s reputation as a market-leading provider of specialized communications engineering and construction services.



“Creating true hyperscale infrastructure is complex with little to no margin for error. Choosing the right partner is absolutely critical when your business depends on delivering a best-in-class network that not only meets the customer demands of today but is future-proofed because of understanding the needs of tomorrow. Hylan has both the local knowledge and in-house resources needed to support a build of this magnitude and to carry it out on time and within budget.”

– Judd Carothers,
Founder & COO of DF&I



“Our team has cultivated a strong relationship with DF&I, and we are honored to be selected to work with their team once more on this important build. As a Hylan Company, we have the proper backing to get through the project with scale and are able to provide all resources necessary to get the job completed.”

– Daryl Dunbar,
President of Down Under Construction