



# Fast and reliable alerting in a separate network

Reference report on the alerting network in South Tyrol, Italy

The topography of the province of South Tyrol, situated in the South Tyrolean Alps with densely populated valleys and high Alpine peaks measuring up to 3,900 meters above sea level, presents a number of significant challenges for alerting systems, requiring a high-performance radio network architecture. In 2011 the regional association of voluntary fire brigades in South Tyrol (LFV) commissioned Swissphone with setting up a new alerting system – and for good reason. Walter Oberrauch, head of the techni-



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Walter Oberrauch, head of the technical systems division at LFV

cal systems division at the association: «Our goal was to send alerts separately from voice radio and transmit them at the same frequency across the entire province. This would allow us to alert people who are outside of their own district borders.»

## A network with redundant control and monitoring systems

The new network architecture in South Tyrol, which Swissphone installed in collaboration with Eltronix, the local service partner based out of Bruneck, Italy, includes two redundant control and monitoring systems. One is located at the provincial emergency call centre in Bolzano, while the other backup system is installed at the LFV facility. There are also nine additional PC-based transmitters at the district operations centres. Walter Oberrauch: «It was important that we be able to autonomously alert the individual districts, even if the connection to the control and monitoring system is disrupted.»

## Facts about the South Tyrol region

In South Tyrol, 306 voluntary fire brigades, three works fire brigades and one professional fire brigade in Bolzano are there to provide fast and reliable assistance in the event of fires and other emergencies. There are nine district associations as well as a regional association based in Vipitan, which is also tasked with running the provincial fire academy.