

Louis E. Conover

Significant Experience

Mr. Conover brings more than 45 years of telecommunications experience to the Utility Telecom Team. As a telecommunications engineer for 20 years with Tri-State Generation and Transmission Assoc., he was responsible for the planning and design of power utility telecommunications systems including microwave, fiber optics, mobile radio, and SCADA and has a strong knowledge of system integration. He has demonstrated the ability to take on complex projects and complete them. He has implemented several control center projects, system replacement/reconfigurations, and site developments. He has written software to manage the Tri-State communications network and has assisted in the migration toward a GIS based management system.

Since joining Utility Telecom, he has collaborated with client technical staff to determine the best options to meet their design requirements. Based on those requirements, he has provided project budgets, system construction designs packages, and bill of materials. Recently he has been involved in a study to determine the best strategy to migrate a client's TDM communications system to a packet-based system.

Experience Prior to Utility Telecom

1982-2015 Tri-State Generation & Transmission

Telecommunications & Control System Specialist 1995 to 2015
Duties included providing design, procurement and technical support to communication system users, maintenance personnel and vendors. Duties also included developing long term system designs, project budgets, and equipment procurement specifications for both fiber and microwave communication systems, installation documentation in both AutoCAD and written form, selection and development of several communication sites, project management and negotiating contracts for use of non-Tri-State communication sites. Accomplishments include the merging of 3 different analog communication networks, conversion of that analog microwave system to a digital OC-3 system, and then starting the conversion to a fiber based OC-48 system. Specified and commissioned a back-up control center, upgrading the existing NOC, specifying and commissioning an IP based NMS, development of a multi-user Communication System Management application that included site management, FCC license tracking, and system channelization.

EMS Control System Specialist 1991 to 1995
Duties included providing technical support to users and maintenance personnel for master station and remote terminal equipment. Provided technical assistance for the development of specifications for the acquisition, installation, and maintenance of the EMS and RTU equipment. Provided technical coordination for the EMS system with other user groups and vendors. Special accomplishment was the design and implementation of a multi-user PC based strip chart recorder to replace some 40 electro-mechanical strip chart recorders being used.

Telecommunication Technician 1982 to 1991
Journey level technician responsible for installation and maintenance of microwave, multiplex, SCADA systems, test equipment, mobile radio communications system and corporate telephone system covering Colorado, Nebraska and Wyoming. Design responsibilities included system channelization, equipment modifications, and documentation. Accomplishments include the installation and commissioning of the new NOC and dispatch center, the design and implementation of an 8-point Alarm & Control extension module for use with microwave radio. Computerizing the communication system channel planning.

- 1979-1982 Conover Electronics Owner/Technician**
 As Owner, duties included supervision of two general electronic technicians, material procurement, radio site development, and negotiating radio maintenance contracts. Shop was also a contractor for Motorola covering their mobile radio and microwave installation and maintenance contract needs in Northern Idaho. Communications clientele included both general business and public safety organizations. A highlight was the installation of the new mobile radio system for the sheriff's department, and installation of the new jail security system. Service territory was Northern Idaho and the Northwestern corner of Montana.
- 1973-1979 Farinon Electric System Test Technician**
 Duties included test and repair of analog and early digital microwave systems used in various bands, bandwidths and technologies being deployed to customer sites. Duties also included proving out system designs and documentation before deployment, designing and building test fixtures used to test various products, developing and publishing system test documentation. Maintained the corporate PBX system at the Mountain View, CA plant before being moved to the San Carlos, CA plant.
- 1969-1972 U.S. Air Force Journey Level Ground Radio Technician**
 Duties included installation and repair to the component level on various radio, electronic and electro-mechanical systems used to support the U.S. Air Force flight mission at Wiesbaden, West Germany.

Current Position Sr. Consultant

Education

West Valley College, Saratoga, California (3 Credits toward an associate's degree)
 Front Range Community College, Westminster, Colorado (30 Credits toward an associate's degree)
 U.S. Air Force Electronics School, Keesler AFB, Mississippi
 Various Technical Training Programs with Harris-Farinon, Alcatel, Nortel, Fujitsu, Motorola, Rolm and other vendors
 Various Project Management courses

Other

- Licenses
 - F.C.C. First Class Commercial (now General Radio Telephone)
 - National Association of Business and Educational Radio, Inc.
- Military
 - U.S. Air Force, Electronics Technician – Communications
- Security Clearance
 - Secret (U.S. Air Force)