

## GroundLinx<sup>™</sup> Announces Completion of Third Grounding Enhancement Project For MCCD/Mobile County.

GroundLinx Technologies, based in Blue Ridge, Georgia today announced completion of a total reworking of the grounding system at the Mobile County Communications District (MCCD) transmitter and tower site near Mt. Vernon, Alabama known as the "MOWA" site.

The new system effectively replaced an existing chemical ground rod system (10 units) with 13 GroundLinx™ Gradiance™ electrodes and supporting materials. In doing so, the MOWA site resistance-to-ground (RTG) was lowered from 64 Ohms down to **3.4 Ohms** — a reduction of **94.7%**.

Included with the project (and the 13 units mentioned) was the installation of a Gradiance™ "trap" electrode to ensure interception of surges carried to the site by commercial power supply delivered via an end-of-line branch circuit configuration. This type of power supply is extremely common at transmitter sites, and is very often the route by which massive over-voltage spikes enter a transmitter structure. The GroundLinx trap electrode offers a very low resistance route to ground for over-voltages to take *prior to* entering an equipment structure.

Notably, while RTG measurements taken with low voltage test instruments are valid as <u>relative</u> performance data in comparison with other sites and systems - and are not absolute measures of the ability of a given system to carry and ground ultra high current, high voltage, and very high frequency pulses — <u>an RTG reduction of this magnitude is highly significant.</u>

More importantly and independent of RTG ratings, the critical strength of a Gradiance<sup>tm</sup> system to far more completely dissipate high energy, high frequency pulses versus copper-only (including chemically enhanced) grounding systems dramatically improves the likelihood severe power

spikes and surges will be entirely mitigated without emergency back-up power activation, equipment damage, or loss of transmitter service.

MCCD has now specified GroundLinx™ Gradiance™ grounding designs on three of its E-911 transmitter/tower sites. According to MCCD personnel, since beginning the changeover to GroundLinx designs, a distinct reduction in service interruptions and damage to equipment has been noted. Additional conversions to GroundLinx grounding at other MCCD tower/transmitter sites are being considered.

For more information on this most recent MCCD installation, or on other grounding enhancement projects done by GroundLinx™ for MCCD and other broadcasting/telecom customers, contact Tom LaBarge at <a href="mailto:tomlabarge@groundlinx.com">tomlabarge@groundlinx.com</a>

