

How Aina Wireless Voice Responder Helps Safely Transport 6,000 Kids to School Every Day



Bonita Stevens is the Transportation Supervisor for the Lyon County School District in Nevada. Starting first as a bus driver, then a trainer and an area coordinator, Bonita now manages the transportation of the whole school district. She chose the AINA Wireless Voice Responder to make communication simpler for their bus drivers so they can focus on their job which is transporting 6,000 kids to school and back every day, five days a week. Where other solutions led to distraction, the flawless integration of the Voice Responder to the PTT app as well as the superior volume output, make communication easy, even in a noisy environment like a crowded school bus.

“I get a lot of great feedback from the drivers praising the sound quality of the Voice Responder.”

Bonita Stevens - Transportation Supervisor, Lyon County School District



CHALLENGE

In the past, Lyon County School District used flip phones with a PTT button but with legislative

changes, these were not in compliance with the hands-free policies of the Department of Transportation (DOT). As a result, they transitioned to tablets with the ESChat application. Communication is extremely important for the School District. The solution needs to help the area managers keep track of the busses and easily communicate with drivers in specific areas in case a child were to go missing, or for drivers to reach out to report any issues along their route. The School District doesn't want the bus drivers to be distracted while driving so the tablet needs to be stowed away after the driver documents his or her time stamp through a separate application. School busses are a highly noisy environment so the device needs to be loud enough for communication to be still understood. Should an unauthorized person enter the bus, the bus driver should be able to trigger an alarm to the area manager silently, so that the necessary escalation steps can be taken.

SOLUTION



Bonita tried wired speaker microphones which were not only not loud enough but would also randomly start playing music when a PTT button was pressed causing dangerous distraction to the driver and often making communication impossible. The ruggedness of the devices was not sufficient enough as they couldn't withstand being dropped and the fragile 3.5mm pins kept breaking off; sometimes even damaging the tablet ports.

Bonita found the AINA Wireless Voice Responder through the ESChat website. She decided to go with the higher priced product compared to its China-manufactured competitor, as she wanted reliability, superior sound quality within noisy environments as well as good customer service.

POSITIVE OUTCOMES

The AINA Wireless Voice Responder makes communication safe and simple. As its core functionality, the superior audio quality and noise cancellation is crucial so that communication does not have to be repeated. The tablet can be stowed anywhere within Bluetooth range and the driver doesn't have to worry about any wires. The unique Bluetooth name on the back of the Voice Responder makes pairing easy, even if 10 bus drivers try to pair at the same time. There is no risk of the music player being launched by a button press thanks to the far superior digital Bluetooth connection over the analog 3.5mm pins. Communication to the preferred callee is easily handled through one of the PTT buttons. Using the ESChat application map feature, the area managers can easily zoom into specific areas and communicate to all drivers visible on the screen without having to select drivers separately. The area managers are also using the Voice Responder for direct phone calls or 1:1 communications via the ESChat application. Bonita is looking forward to additional features being implemented by the ESChat application such as silent alarm functionality for the drivers which would improve safety for all school kids.



TECHNICAL ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Mobile phone: Samsung Tablets
- ✓ PTT application: ESChat
- ✓ Accessory: AINA Wireless Voice Responder
- ✓ Others: Time Stamp application



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