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Agrinet Closes WiFi Gap

Australia's first farmer designed, owned and run wifi network

In 2018 two thirds of Aussie farmers had problems with internet coverage, in 2028 that is a thing of the past.

Farmers can plug into their network to get instant real-time information.

Agrinet has commercialised their solar powered wifi network to provide rural Australia with high speed and reliable internet. Local farmer investment has enabled the network to scale to where it is today.

How do they create farm wide wifi networks?

The key to it all is to tap into one of the Agrinet ADSL16+ ports, seventeen of these are now stationed across Australia.

"At first we put an antenna on someone's house in town and shot the beam out to the farm where we can redistribute it to give us our own paddock wifi network," Agrinet startup founder Dan Wilson said. It links into three, strategically-sited, 23-metre-high towers that give point-to-point connections and coverage across the entire farm.

One of the original Agrinet antenna's supplying WiFi access to a whole town.

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The system has opened up a range of new monitoring and management opportunities for farmers. Mr Lee explained: "We have four complete weather stations that measure temperature, windspeed and direction, humidity and rainfall. Every second of the day that information is collated and downloaded to our in-farm server."

Mr Lee said he can even access the system from afar. "We have our own private farm cloud where we can store all our yield maps, documents and information. I actually have control of that data," he said. "I was in Sydney the other day and, with our virtual private network, I can link into our private farm server. I can interlink back into my own information."