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Antenna Application

The C&I meter utilizes an external antenna which is permanently mounted at the time of installation. Each C&I Gas Meter Interface contains a 900MHz two-way radio frequency (RF) transceiver. This radio provides communication between an end-point device, and an AxisGate™ node. Depending upon the communication distance involved (far range transmissions), a Silver Spring Networks relay might be used between the end-point device and the node, to extend the distance of the RF communications. This RF connection between the end-point device and the node, possibly through a relay, is by Local Area Network (LAN). To maintain the immediate RF reception and transmit distance of the Gas Meter (near range transmissions), the external antenna is placed outside the utilities room at topmost level, or at ceiling or attic level. AxisGate™ nodes then communicate with the rest of the AxisPath™ network using a Wide Area Network (WAN). This communication allows the C&I Gas Meter Interfaces to transmit usage data to the utility company, or to receive requests or programming instructions from the utility company, or from a technician or installer using a Field Service Unit.