



## POTS Replacement Checklist

Plain old telephone service (POTS) is the analog voice and internet service that has connected businesses across the globe for over 100 years. But as the infrastructure has aged, the copper lines at the heart of the connection, began to disintegrate.

The combined forces of aging infrastructure becoming increasingly expensive to maintain and consumers flocking to newer, cheaper digital options like LTE and VoIP resulted in the successful petition to the FCC to remove the requirement to maintain the copper. As a result, carriers are actively moving consumers off of the analog solutions and onto digital solutions.

Chances are, your business has an analog line hiding somewhere in your communications stack. Fax lines, alarms, and elevators all still require analog service to work reliably, and historically have not communicated well with digital solutions. But in the very near future, access to the analog lines that service these devices will end.

As a business owner, you need to ask yourself these five questions to determine your level of risk of disruption as a result of the end of the copper wires of the PSTN.



### 5 Questions To Ask:

- 1. How many phone lines do you have? **Include Voice, Fax, Elevator, Alarms, and Emergency Communications.**
- 2. What are you paying per line including tax?
- 3. Have those fees gone up?
- 4. Has your provider issued a notice about the discontinuation of your analog lines?
- 5. Do you have a contingency plan in place?



## Other points to consider:

- The analog, copper phone line is retiring. It is not a matter of if - but when. Typically, a business will have 90 days to convert to digital once the notice has been received.
- Carriers are no longer offering new analog service lines. All new lines will require a digital service line and can slow down your business expansion if you still rely heavily on analog technology like fax machines.
- Fire and natural disasters can wipe out an analog line, and with the requirement to repair and maintain the copper no longer mandated, carriers are replacing any damaged lines with fiber and digital lines, making your conversion time instantaneous if you are affected by one of these events. You need a plan now to avoid a sudden disruption.
- Replacement lines must meet certain criteria as determined by the FCC, fire marshal, alarm, and emergency communications requirements.



## The Solution:

### **POTS IN A BOX®**

POTS IN A BOX® is an LTE/Cellular/Wi-Fi/PSTN/FirstNet-capable router that can enable many combinations of legacy analog wireline in-band Voice, M2M, Data, DTMF, Analog Data Modem Tones, Fax and Alarm System Signals. These functions - historically supported by POTS Lines - can be delivered via POTS IN A BOX® and carried over LAN or WAN internet connections such as fiber optics or cable connections. MIX Networks is one of only a handful of businesses authorized to install and manage POTS IN A BOX® solutions.

## Common Questions:

- What if the power goes out?  
**All POTS IN A BOX® come with battery back-up included.**
- Are there data limits for LTE backup?  
**There are no data limits when it comes to fire, alarm, and emergency communications. Voice usage is covered under your voice plans.**
- I have several locations with different providers, billing, usage, and support. Can you accommodate all locations?  
**POTS IN A BOX® can be deployed regardless of the original provider of service to your locations. As a central solution provider, we can unify all your geographically diverse locations.**
- How quickly can my business be converted?  
**Depending on your infrastructure, solutions can be functional in weeks.**

Code Certified Solutions  
Out of the box compliance:

- NFPA 72
- Fire Marshal approval in all 50 states