



## CASE STUDY MônFM

MônFM is a community radio service based in Llangefni serving Anglesey, Gwynedd, and other areas of North-West Wales. In early 2023, they ran a community broadcast initiative which involved broadcasting live coverage of local events. By September 2023, MônFM had covered over 30 events, including football matches, agricultural shows, eisteddfodau, and village festivals, among others. To achieve this, MônFM uses an outside broadcast van which connects back to the studio in Llangefni.

### Challenges of outside broadcasts

MônFM faced two challenges with outside broadcasting. One of the challenges is relevant to this case study, namely a stable and reliable connection from the outside broadcast van back to the studio. This was mainly due to poor 4G and 5G coverage in many locations they cover. Furthermore, in events with a high number of attendees, local 4G masts can easily get swamped if the telecommunications infrastructure of the area does not have the capacity to serve a large number of users.

To deal with this, MônFM tried a multipath link, simultaneously using up to three different connections from different mobile data providers. This way, if one connection is swamped by local over-use, they would use another connection to carry the data back to the studio.

They found that running multiple mobile links in parallel to be useful, but not 100% reliable, especially for live sports commentary, for instance.

### Starlink trials

MônFM approached Menter Môn for support to trial Starlink in their operations since it is a robust and reliable means of connection. Menter Môn sponsored a Starlink dish to be used in three events: the Welsh Game fair, a football match in Holyhead, and the Anglesey Autofest at the Anglesey Showground.

**MônFM found this to be a game-changer, since it enabled them to cover any community event without worrying about the telecommunications infrastructure of the area.**