New Horizons Telecom, Inc. provides full-service design and construction work focused on the telecommunications sector throughout Alaska. Based in Palmer, the forty-year-old, family-owned company works with clients such as local and nationwide utilities to lay the foundation for the state’s ever-expanding telecommunications needs. But what exactly does that mean?

“It means we install the ocean terminals and beach landings for intercontinental data traffic, we install the towers and antennas for mobile phones, we make 4G LTE possible, we make the cloud possible with data center installations,” says New Horizons’ CEO Leighton Lee.

It’s our job to provide the physical pieces needed by our clients so they can continue to serve their clients successfully, says Lee, a third-generation Alaskan. Those physical pieces include hundreds of towers statewide; stand-alone, pre-fabricated, and commercial structures; foundations; logistics; and communications equipment ranging from high-performance microwave and fiber optic network components to high-speed wireless systems, among many, many other services. Telecommunications requires a tremendous amount of hardware that most people never see.

Veteran-owned New Horizons boasts a staff of highly-trained, professional technicians, engineers, program managers, and field personnel who each possess a wide variety of capabilities unique to working in Alaska. “We have eighty-five employees on staff who design and build these networks, who design and install power systems, they design foundations for towers, and they design communications buildings. And that’s just a part of what we do,” says Lee.

New Horizons recently worked with communications giant Quintillion on a project to run more than 760 miles of subsea cable from Nome to Prudhoe Bay, with points branching off to village landings at Nome, Kotzebue, Point Hope, Wainwright, Utqiagvik (Barrow), and Oliktok Point. “New Horizons was contracted to design and install the ocean terminals and terrestrial fiber optic cable for the Quintillion project, which will bring high-speed internet and communications capabilities to these communities,” says Lee.

“We have succeeded for forty years by providing a solid, quality product and excellent customer service. And that is exactly how we intend to evolve and thrive through the next forty. We always focus on our customers’ requirements. We offer solutions for our clients so they can focus on their customers,” says Lee. “Carriers are not necessarily in the business of building lines, they are in the business of using the lines we install to provide communications to their users. So our function in the fabric of telecom is one of a contractor. Very simply put: they have a specific mission and we help them accomplish that mission,” says Lee.

New Horizons’ professionals routinely install and commission communications equipment ranging from high-performance microwave and fiber optic network components to the latest wireless systems and premise cabling for a huge and varied client base including local, state, and federal agencies such as the Department of Defense and the DEA; Local Exchange Carriers; and commercial and private entities such as Alyeska Pipeline.

“For us, telecommunications, infrastructure, and logistics aren’t buzzwords. Our expertise helps bring modern, sophisticated communications capabilities to Alaskans everywhere. From a strategic standpoint, we look forward to the [Mat-Su] Valley’s continued growth and the growth of Southcentral in general. When the time comes, we’re ready to build out Palmer and Wasilla as smart cities,” says Lee.

As a preeminent Alaskan contractor focused on excellent customer service through a team of highly-trained, expert professionals, there is no doubt New Horizons will help usher in the next generation of technology throughout Alaska. “We see a very bright future for our industry and for our state and our team is really looking forward to being a part that future,” says Lee.