

Taoglas helps Bevi connect innovative beverage dispensers in thirsty environments

Global conservation is of utmost importance to Bevi. Since 2014, the company has helped businesses and their employees keep **over 200 million single-use bottles and cans out of landfills.** Bevi's innovative dispensers replace traditional water coolers with units that instantly and automatically mix filtered water, flavors, and fizz into zero and low-calorie beverages.

The Challenge

Bevi dispensers require a reliable internet connection so Bevi and its partners could ensure that they're always working properly and fully stocked. "Maintaining connectivity to the machines is a key part of the value proposition that we offer," says David Skocypec, Vice President Hardware Engineering at Bevi. First-generation Bevi dispensers typically used Wi-Fi, such as the customer's office network, Ethernet, or an external cellular modem. For its second generation, Bevi wanted to offer an embedded cellular connectivity, which would allow for greater flexibility, lower cost and ensure all machines would be connected to their cloud service.

Bevi needed an antenna capable of maintaining a reliable cellular connection even when dispensers are installed deep inside buildings, where concrete, drywall and steel attenuate signals.

The antenna also had to be easy to mount, with a design that kept it flush instead of protruding from the dispenser.

The Solution

Bevi chose the Taoglas FXUB66, a flexible wideband antenna which was designed to cover all working frequencies in the 600-6000 MHz spectrum, including all Cellular, NB-IoT, Cat-M and Wi-Fi bands. For separate Wi-Fi connectivity, the FXP810, a flexible, high efficiency dual band Wi-Fi antenna was chosen. This flexibility gives Bevi the ability to choose a mobile operator that provides the best coverage and tariffs in each of the U.S. and Canadian markets that it serves.

Bevi initially considered other antenna vendors but chose Taoglas for several reasons. One was that the other vendors couldn't meet Bevi's integration requirements, such as adhesive mounting and in the ideal location while maintaining optimum performance. Another reason was Skocypec's positive experiences with Taoglas solutions at his previous company, where he got immediate answers to questions about mobile operator certification and other implementation aspects.

"Within a week, we had samples that we could prototype and test. Another advantage of Taoglas is that we were able to order customised antennas directly. They were built with cables to length, and with our connectors, which is a huge benefit [compared to] off-the-shelf products. Taoglas is very flexible."

The Outcome

Bevi successfully launched its next-generation Bevi 2.0 Stand Up dispenser featuring Taoglas' FXUB66 and FXP810. "It was pretty straightforward," David Skocypec says. "There were no surprises. Taoglas provided mounting instructions and supplied antennas on time to our manufacturing partner. It was quick and seamless."

Bevi 2.0 systems are always online to ensure they never run out of bubbles or flavors. Bevi and Taoglas are proud to help keep single-use bottles and cans out of landfills and help to decrease the amount that are initially produced.

"It's good to have that direct line of communication, which you don't normally have with other vendors, It was quick and seamless."

- David Skocypec

Vice President, Hardware Engineering



Featured Taoglas Products

FXUB66

5G/4G wideband adhesive mount antenna Dimensions: 120.4 x 50.4 x 0.2 mm

Datasheet

FXP810

2.4/4.9-6.0GHz Flex PCB Antenna Dimensions: 31 x 31 x 0.1mm

Datasheet

