COPPIN STATE UNIVERSITY

BACKGROUND

A Historical Black Institution in northwest Baltimore, Coppin State University provides a comprehensive four-year liberal arts education to some 3,980 students, with a commitment to excellence in teaching, research and continuing service to the community.

CUSTOMER NEED

Coppin State wanted to deploy a state-of-the-art, converged IP network that would provide broadband connectivity, learning-on-demand services, mobile learning, advanced security, “smart classrooms,” improved communications, enhanced productivity and greater administrative efficiency. The university required a network that was scalable, easy to maintain, reliable, secure, flexible, cost-effective and well-positioned for the future.

NORTEL SOLUTION

- A converged IP infrastructure supporting all voice, data and video communications over a common IP Gigabit backbone
- Ubiquitous wireless LAN (WLAN) access, including wireless voice, across campus - both indoors and out - is enabling new modes of teaching as classroom instruction becomes mobile, and in some cases moves outside the traditional campus walls. Wireless IP Telephony also supports improved accessibility to public safety, facilities management and the university’s IT support staff.
- Nortel Ethernet Routing Switch 8600 at the core provides scalability, split multi-link trunking and advanced routing functionality for IP services. It also includes the Power over Ethernet (PoE)-enabled Nortel Ethernet Routing Switch 8300 and Nortel Ethernet Routing Switch 5520’s, facilitating Voice over IP (VoIP) and WLAN access to classrooms and administrative buildings.
- Nortel WLAN Security Switches provide security and management features, including dynamic load balancing and unauthorized access point identification and containment. Security is increased and the data center infrastructure protected with improved performance using the Nortel Threat Protection System, Switched Firewalls.

WHY NORTEL?

"I trust Nortel. They didn’t try to shoehorn a solution. They listened, understood and provided the solution we needed. We now have a learning infrastructure that is flexible, secure and always-on. And our Voice over IP rollout has proven both highly stable and scalable. In the last three years, there has not been a single network failure."

- Dr. Ahmed El-Haggan, vice-president of IT services and chief information officer, Coppin State University

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- Download the full case study
- Watch the video - Delivering Learning on the Go
- Watch the video - Security Solutions
- Online seminar: Higher Ed: Learning On The Go - Transforming Lives at Coppin State University
- Listen to the podcast
Application Switches, and SSL Accelerators. A Nortel VPN Gateway provides secure and mobile remote access for faculty, staff and students to all campus resources.

- CallPilot unified messaging is provided to all faculty and staff, enabling the consolidation of all email, voice mail and fax communication through a single unified Web interface.

RESULTS & BENEFITS

- Coppin State University, winner of the 2005 EDUCAUSE award for excellence in networking, has leveraged the deployment of the Nortel converged IP network to transform its teaching, research and administrative environment and to achieve the goals of its "Technology Fluency Program." Its communications technology is today a competitive differentiator, helping to attract new "net-generation" students, retain top faculty and optimize the operational efficiency of its administration.

- Coppin State now has 40 'smart classrooms,' each hooked into the network, with a desktop station for every student and featuring audio-visual projectors, DVDs, VCRs, desktop PCs, wireless microphones and sound systems, all centrally monitored and managed.

- Students now have secure access to campus resources from anywhere at any time as Nortel's wireless mobility solutions are "untethering the learning process, creating learning communities anywhere on campus.

- The university now has a secure connection to the Baltimore City Police, giving Coppin State's public safety department expedited access to police databases when performing background checks and reporting campus security incidents. Also, class lectures can be recorded and securely accessed remotely in multimedia formats, supporting "learning on demand" and remote students can also easily access progress reports, check the status of financial applications, register for a course or access counseling anytime, anywhere.

- This secure access is also simplifying the performance of administrative functions. And faculty are using it for collaborative research and grant writing, placing documents in virtual locations where they are accessible to those concerned but within which confidentiality and intellectual-property rights can be assured.

RELATED LINKS

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- Campus Mobile Worker Solutions