

NETGEAR Provides Best in Class Solution to Australia's Capital University, Creating a Faster, Smarter Network Experience

Profile

INDUSTRY: Tertiary Education

Organisation

University of Canberra, Australia's Capital University

Challenge

To uncover an affordable, reliable and simple solution to support an upgraded network connection of 10 Gigabits across the 24 buildings on campus.

Solution

NETGEAR® XSM7224S Switches

Background

With staff and students totalling 14,000 and growing, the University of Canberra recognised that it needed to review its IT infrastructure in order to support the increasing University population. Spanning a campus of 120 hectares with 24 buildings, the network was beginning to slow with speed and access frequently bottlenecking. In order to prevent a major failure and jeopardizing the state of the art education the University so proudly delivered its students, the situation would need to be rectified.

The person tasked with ensuring consistent fast and reliable network access from anywhere across this campus is Andrew Cooper, Network Manager for the University.

Andrew recognised that the University had to upgrade the University's eight year old systems, in order to prevent a significant failure. To ensure a more flexible working environment for the staff and a more accessible learning environment for students, the University's network would need to be overhauled.



THE CHALLENGE

“With such a huge campus area to cover, we were looking for a cost-effective network solution that would be user friendly for both our students and staff...”

With the population of the University of Canberra growing rapidly, a one Gigabit network connection was no longer providing the speeds required to maintain productive and flexible access for the University’s staff and students. The University sought advice from three vendors to uncover an affordable, reliable and simple solution to support an upgraded network connection of 10 Gigabits across the 24 buildings on campus.

“With such a huge campus area to cover, we were looking for a cost-effective network solution that would be user friendly for both our students and staff. It was crucial that the system we implemented could sustain the growth of the University over the coming years, be that by student numbers and by university infrastructure” said Andrew Cooper.

“While we were concerned with consistency of network coverage across the campus, it was also important that the vendor’s delivered the transfer speeds which they promised on paper, in order to create the seamless network experience for students and staff - regardless of where on the campus they were working.”

THE SOLUTION

NETGEAR is a world leading technology provider developing innovative networking solutions for small to medium businesses. Priding itself on delivering smarter IT solutions to Australian organisations, NETGEAR provides enterprise grade technology without the complexity, or the price tag.

Following NETGEAR’s superior performance in a comparison of several different vendors, the University of Canberra has to date installed 14 NETGEAR XSM7224S Switches. With the University’s overhaul expected to take several years, Andrew has 400 NETGEAR switches now in service and foresees this number increasing at the end of this period.

Andrew explains, “Having used NETGEAR for other IT solutions over the last eight years, we knew the product they were offering would deliver on what was promised. Upon setting up the test device, we immediately recognised the setup wizard and user interface created a smoother experience for both my supporting IT team and me.”

“While NETGEAR’s products offered equivalent speeds, NETGEAR cost only half of what the other vendors were quoting, thus making it an easy choice for the University.”

THE OUTCOME

“NETGEAR has supported the University right from the beginning, addressing our challenge with a no-fuss approach that met our initial requirements and criteria...”

With the upgrade of the University’s system still underway, Andrew has already noticed the changes, “students and staff alike are already noticing the increased network speeds across different areas on the campus.”

“We are excited that this upgrade will deliver a superior network experience to students and staff alike. Students will have the freedom to learn without being restricted to the confines of a classroom, while teachers will be inspired to interact and collaborate with students in what will be a smoother and more open forum.”

“NETGEAR has supported the University right from the beginning, addressing our challenge with a no-fuss approach that met our initial requirements and criteria. The upgrade will undoubtedly have a positive impact on the future growth and reputation of the University as a whole.”

ABOUT NETGEAR

NETGEAR (NASDAQGM: NTGR) is a global networking company that delivers innovative products to consumers, businesses and service providers. For consumers, the company makes high performance, dependable and easy home networking, storage and digital media products to connect people with the Internet and their content and devices.

For businesses, NETGEAR provides networking, storage and security solutions without the cost and complexity of Big IT. The company also supplies top service providers with retail proven, whole home solutions for their customers. NETGEAR products are built on a variety of proven technologies such as wireless, Ethernet and powerline, with a focus on reliability and ease-of-use. NETGEAR products are sold in over 28,000 retail locations around the globe, and through more than 37,000 value-added resellers. The company’s headquarters are in San Jose, Calif., with additional offices in 25 countries. NETGEAR is an ENERGY STAR® partner.

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