

New University Manages Rapid Growth

Cisco network helps Turkish university upgrade and expand communications services for staff and students.

Customer Name: Yaşar University

Industry: Education

Location: İzmir, Turkey

Number of Employees: 550

Business Impact

- Single network cut capital costs, particularly on cabling
- Staff and student access to resources improved teaching and learning
- Better network design and performance supported future growth



Case Study

Business Challenge

Yaşar University was founded in 2001, with the goal of helping students excel both academically and as members of society. It is located in İzmir, Turkey's third largest city, and supported by the Yaşar group of companies, a leader in the Turkish economy. Technology is important to the university's mission of preparing students for their roles in modern life.

Early expansion was rapid, and the institution soon began to outgrow its original infrastructure. The network was hard to manage, because equipment was located in 21 buildings. There was not enough capacity to support additional users or applications, and network performance was unreliable due to congestion. Security also needed to be upgraded, so that different groups of users (students, teachers, and administrative staff) could access separate sections of the network.

The idea was to create an infrastructure that could cope with future growth (student numbers reached 5000 in 2010 and are still rising) including advanced technologies such as wireless and IP telephony. The overall objective was to give staff and students better tools for working, teaching, and learning.

Solution and Results

Yaşar University now has a single Cisco® infrastructure that it uses for computing, phone, and wireless services. Centralizing the network core in one building has led to substantial cost savings on cabling between existing buildings, for example, and on cabling in the university's first student accommodation. Maintenance fees are also down, and the university expects a return on its IP telephony investment in just two years.

University staff are now using wireless IP phones to communicate with each other and mobile devices such as PDAs to access the network, all over the campus. Yaşar University students can easily access information with their laptops at any time and from any place on the campus.

The new network not only performs better, it is also more secure and easier to manage. IT staff can track the location of important devices using an application on the wireless network. It is possible to add new network users very quickly or even change the way that a building is utilized, and there is built-in flexibility for the future.



“We now have a powerful and well designed network that has enabled us to improve services for staff and students. As we continue to grow, we can be confident about adding users and introducing new applications such as online learning, at relatively little extra cost.”

Erkan Tunc

Director of IT Department, Yaşar University

For More Information

To find out more about Cisco collaboration solutions, including IP telephony, please visit

www.cisco.com/en/US/netsol/ns1007/index.html