



The customer summary

Customer name
NGAC Phase 1
Joint Venture

Industry
Public-Private-Partnership
(Joint Venture)

Location
Philippines

Number of employees
159

2019 SEA Games

Challenges

- Design and implement a secure, reliable, easy-to-manage network infrastructure
- Less than two months for the project timeline

Network solution summary

- 1,200 high-density wireless Meraki access points were successfully deployed, enabling 30,000 simultaneous users to enjoy a fast and reliable Wi-Fi network

Business results summary

- Fast 30mbps internet connection experienced in a big sporting event
- Cloud-based Meraki dashboard provided full visibility of usage, threats, and user-traffic insights to operations team

Thousands of athletes from eleven countries in Southeast Asia convened in the Philippines from November 30 to December 11, 2019, for the biggest SEA Games in history. **To accommodate the event, NGAC Phase 1 Joint Venture, a partnership between Bases Conversion Development Authority and MTD Philippines, Inc.** only had 18 months to build a smart city—from the ground up.

Against time

As construction firm MTD raced to develop what was named “New Clark City (NCC),” Cisco and partner Trends & Technologies, Inc. (Trends) were tapped to design the perfect network infrastructure and set it up in less than two months. The SEA Games’ success and the overall user experience relied on connectivity, especially with e-games among the medal events for the first time. The games themselves were to be live-streamed, and all eyes and ears of the Southeast Asian region—and the entire world—would soon be on them.

Internet connectivity had to be provided for about 30,000 athletes, spectators, organizers, and media. The high density of users concentrated within the venue, and the anticipated use of bandwidth-intensive applications and communications, required a well-architected network infrastructure and the ability to optimize network traffic, providing speed, stability, and security. Such a network usually takes several months to plan and implement.



“Being a smart city means that connectivity and communications within and outside the city are world-class, and what better way to showcase that than during a major sporting event.”

Vince Dizon
President and CEO, BCDA





Going beyond possibilities

Cisco and Trends took on the challenge. A dedicated team installed over 1,200 Cisco Meraki access points in various areas throughout the city using MR84, MR53, and MR30H models. The New Clark City development for the SEA Games spans more than 36 square miles, including an aquatics center, athletic stadium, river parks, and commercial centers—all of which had to be covered by the wireless network.

Meraki is the best in the industry for high-density wireless access points that can easily optimize congested network usage. The cloud-based Meraki dashboard managed these wireless access points with zero-touch provisioning that allowed remote preconfiguration and deployment. The system could be activated within minutes, providing internet access inside New Clark City. Meraki also has dedicated scanning and security radio for continuous monitoring of the RF environment. This allows for automatic adaptation to interference and maintaining optimal system-wide wireless performance, while having full-time network protection against wireless threats.

“We had to deliver the impossible task of providing a reliable, secure, world-class infrastructure network to be enjoyed by everybody.”

Patrick Nicholas David
President and CEO, MTD



“We know for a fact that when we use Cisco, we will never have any technical issues. Whatever we have installed is going to work right and great for the first time.”

Hasan Fard

Chairman and CEO, Trends & Technologies, Inc.

Cisco Meraki was vital in helping SEA Games’ spectators experience fast, simultaneous internet connections.

The Meraki dashboard, a single pane of glass, provides full visibility of network traffic, so the IT administrator can monitor the wireless performance remotely and immediately identify and address issues to maintain an excellent user experience.

Meraki also provides real-time location statistics and reporting, with insights about visitor traffic trends, dwell time, and new vs. repeat visitor loyalty during the sports event, which are utilized to improve user engagement.

The game-changer

During the SEA Games, everyone in New Clark City was able to enjoy high-speed internet.



Media outlets and fans were able to stream the events as they happened. **Simultaneous events were aired and people were able to watch from the comfort of their homes all over the Philippines and throughout Southeast Asia.** It was truly a world-class network

The partnership between the agencies involved was key to the project’s success. Cisco Meraki made the deployment and management of the network simple and easy, which is our trademark—making powerful technology accessible and user-friendly.

“The role of Cisco and our other partners was crucial in providing for that very important spectator experience for our people who were able to do Facebook live or shoot real-time video and post directly on their social media accounts... It changed the entire experience of the games.”

Vince Dizon

President and CEO, BCDA