



A campus on the move

Brunel University London supports growing mobility demands with a next-generation wireless network.

“With our 802.11ac-capable Wi-Fi network, we’re exceeding student expectations for service quality.”

- Simon Furber, Network and Data Centre manager, Brunel University London

On a college campus, mobility equals freedom – the opportunity to learn wherever new experiences and knowledge present themselves.

Challenges

- Provide a consistent bring-your-own-device (BYOD) experience
- Enforce security policies across groups
- Gain visibility into Wi-Fi demand and movement patterns

Brunel University London is on the outskirts of London with an emphasis on engineering, science and technology. It aims to create a consistent campus user experience, including wireless network access.

“Students expect the same experience on campus as they have at home,” says Simon Furber, the university’s network and data centre manager. “Students want to do their computing anywhere. They don’t want to be a slave to the cable.”

Student expectations also continue to increase as technology marches forward. The university strives to stay ahead of the curve and ready to support the next innovation.

“We want our network to be an enabler for the next 10 years and beyond,” says Furber. “That means supporting new wireless networking standards.”

With thousands of users bringing their own devices to the network, the university needed to maintain security. It also needed visibility into patterns of Wi-Fi usage to avoid service bottlenecks.

Case Study | Brunel University London

Size: 15,000 Students | Location: Uxbridge, London, UK | Industry: Education





A complete Cisco BYOD Smart Solution automates policy enforcement, authentication and management.

Solutions

- Overlaid Cisco Identity Services Engine for security policy management
- Deployed Cisco wireless access points and Cisco Mobility Services Engine

Reliable, fast Wi-Fi for 17,000 users

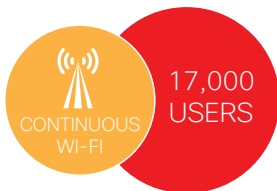
The university can now provide a consistent wireless experience across 70 buildings.

“We now have a single solution to support BYOD and increasing connectivity standards,” says Furber. “After deploying wireless access points with integrated 802.11ac, 30 per cent of students were connecting with 11ac-capable devices.”

Wireless freedom without compromising security

Brunel maintains a Wi-Fi network for staff and students, and a separate guest network. The solution matches the user against Brunel’s Microsoft Active Directory to determine policies.

“The policy control engine gives us granular control,” says Furber. “We can remove a device from our network or disable service if we choose to.”



Maintaining service quality

The university can easily impose bandwidth limits during times of heavy network activity and block or throttle rogue applications.

Simplified management and visibility

A single repository provides a dashboard of network and client status. If a network issue comes up, experts and online self-help provide fast support.



Results

- Offers a continuous Wi-Fi experience for 17,000 users
- Provides visibility into user activity and applications on network
- Positions university as a leader in wireless mobility

Staying ahead of demand

The university's future plans include location analytics to better understand mobile behaviours and device usage.

"Our goal is to continue to exceed student expectations of the service levels a modern university should deliver," says Furber.



Products & Services

- Wireless/Mobility**
 - Cisco Aironet™ 3700 Series Access Points with integrated 802.11ac
 - Cisco Application Visibility and Control (AVC) for Wireless
 - Cisco Mobility Services Engine
 - Cisco Wireless Services Module 2 (WiSM2)
- Service Exchange**
 - Cisco SCE 8000 Series Service Control Engine
- Security**
 - Cisco Identity Services Engine
 - Cisco Secure Access Control System
- Cisco ASA 5585-X Adaptive Security Appliance
- Cisco ASA 5500 Series Adaptive Security Appliance
- Systems Management**
 - Cisco Prime™ Infrastructure
- Services**
 - Cisco SMARTnet® Service



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