Swinburne deploys one of the largest IP networks in Australia

Thomas Duryea Logicalis (TDL) was chosen by Swinburne University to refresh their IT infrastructure, one of the largest IP networks in Australia. The project, worth over $7 million, overhauls the communications infrastructure across the University's six Victorian campuses, with over 18,000 IP endpoints, 4,000 IP screen phones and 400 Wireless base stations.

Challenge

Swinburne University had an aging PABX fleet, with some IP Communications pilots across different departments. The university is committed to "flexible provision of education and training" which embraces a vision of delivering innovation in how courses are delivered and how staff and students are able to collaborate. The University also sought to reduce the operational costs of the telephony environment, while increasing the functionality and services available.

Solution

"Swinburne was a pioneer in trialling IP telephony four years ago and we understand the benefits that it can deliver," Richard Constantine, CIO and IT Director, said. The Cisco-based solution combines voice, data and video as well as Unified Messaging capability.

Swinburne University also has one of the largest existing Cisco Wireless Networks in Australia. TDL re-designed the network to increase security and deliver additional cost savings, efficiencies and improved capabilities.

Benefits

The solution delivered significant cost savings as well as additional security, improved flexibility over wired and wireless links, lower support costs and the ability to implement new productivity enhancing applications. "The new infrastructure enables us to carry out our business more efficiently, address our organisational needs and achieve our goals over the coming years".

It plays an important role in enabling the University to undertake several new initiatives, such as implementing a new student administration system and participating in sophisticated research projects with outside partners that were not previously possible.

One of the main drivers to implement IP telephony was to reduce the costs associated with improving and maintaining Swinburne's existing outdated PABX infrastructure. "With the IP solution and fully featured IP screen phones, we can retire our ageing PABX infrastructure and avoid the duplication of cost in supporting multiple systems."