Campus-Wide Wireless Coverage Enhances University Education and Life

The Ubiquiti Networks™ UniFi® network provides wireless coverage for a university campus and its public areas.

UniFi Access Points are quick to install and easy to configure via the UniFi Controller software.

The robust UniFi network supports over 2000 users at the same time.

The Universidad del Azuay is among the top universities in Ecuador and was the first to become accredited. Located in the city of Cuenca, the university educates approximately 6,000 students on a 10,000 m^2 (108,000 ft^2) campus with public areas.

CAMPUS CHALLENGE

In the past, the university had numerous issues with the equipment and technologies provided by previous manufacturers. The wireless network was down constantly, and management was complicated. The university campus is a geographically large area and requires a wireless network that is both powerful and reliable. The university evaluated several providers and selected Ubiquiti Networks.

Students attending class

KEY PRODUCT BENEFITS

The university uses Ubiquiti products because of these key factors:

- Excellent price-to-performance value
- Robustness and reliability
- Ease of setup and management
- UniFi Controller software – The UniFi Controller software is always included with the purchase of hardware, whereas other solutions required the purchase of multiple controllers.
- Cost – The UniFi equipment costs were 30-40% below the cost of other solutions offered to the university by some of the world's largest networking companies.

"The university is very satisfied with the solution... We recommend UniFi as a strong, reliable product that is easy to deploy."

Edwin Salazar Ordoñez, General Manager, WiFiTeleCoM

PRODUCT IMPLEMENTATION

The university worked with WiFiTeleCoM, a WISP (Wireless Internet Service Provider), and Aire.EC, a technology solutions distributor and leading Ubiquiti reseller in Ecuador. WiFiTeleCoM performed a spectrum analysis and then installed over 90 UniFi APs (Access Points), model UAP-PRO, to cover the campus and its various public areas.

UniFi AP-PRO mounted on the ceiling

Students using wireless on their computers and smartphones

UNIFI NETWORK

Users are validated against a database and authenticated by a RADIUS (Remote Authentication Dial-In User Service) server. UniFi works 100% transparently with various back-end user access systems and IP technologies.

For outdoor wireless coverage, WiFiTeleCoM installed two UniFi APs, model UAP-Outdoor, which are connected to airMAX® Sector Antennas to extend their range. (WiFiTeleCoM also installed two NanoBridges® to form a Point-to-Point link from the main part of campus to the building of the medical school faculty.)

Deployment was easy and quick. Previous vendors had multiple controllers – even up to four – and complicated configuration interfaces. In contrast, the UniFi Controller software manages many devices from a single, user-friendly management interface. No need for command-line (text) commands – the simple yet powerful graphical user interface quickly configures the UniFi APs.

UniFi AP-Outdoor and Sector Antenna for wireless coverage

POSITIVE UNIVERSITY FEEDBACK

"I don't have to be in the library. I can be anywhere... and access virtual libraries all over the world."

Maria, Student

The UniFi network supports faculty and students everywhere, whether they are in a classroom or outside on the campus grounds.

"UniFi is fast and robust... our UniFi network supports over 2000 concurrent users, so our students and teachers are satisfied."

Pablo Esquivel León, Network Administrator, Universidad del Azuay

POSSIBILITIES TO EXPAND NETWORK

As one of the top universities in Ecuador, the Universidad del Azuay strives to excel, and its wireless network must also match its ranking. As network requirements evolve, expansion is easy. After initial configuration, network administrators can quickly install more UniFi APs and use the UniFi Controller to easily add them, so they can save both time and effort in deployment.

"The Wi-Fi signal is strong and stable... I can't imagine a university without Internet; it's like going back in time."

Jorge, Student

For more deployment case studies, visit: www.ubnt.com/customers