Dimension Data Australia Wins $A1.5 Million Contract To Manage Deakin University's Network Upgrade Strategy

Dimension Data Australia has won a contract worth over $A1.5 million to review the current phase of Deakin University's ('Deakin') network infrastructure and architecture upgrade. The contract was awarded in January 2002 and the upgrade will be rolled out over a period of 6-12 months.With over 60,000 students enrolled at five campuses across Victoria, and with many of them choosing the flexibility of online course delivery, network performance is a high priority for Deakin. During 2002, with Dimension Data's assistance, Deakin is pursuing a strategy to deliver: improved network performance, higher desktop capacity for users, better accessibility to network resources, improved network management and maintenance, protection against power failure and surges, business continuity through deploying redundancy, and scalability of the network."Essentially there are four main aspects to our network upgrade strategy. First, we want all staff and students across all campuses to have the same level of network access, and we will achieve this by upgrading all users and consolidating all technologies to get the same level of performance. Second, we want the entire network to meet current specs so that everyone can have access to value-added technologies, such as IP Telephony. Third, we want to minimise the cost of ownership of the network, and we will achieve this by reducing the technologies to a bare minimum, thereby keeping maintenance simple and quick. Our fourth aim is to engineer redundancy into the core of the network so that if any single network device fails, no more than 100 people will be affected," said Craig Warren, manager, network systems, Deakin University.Dimension Data, in partnership with Deakin, is undertaking a complete infrastructure refresh to enable a fully redundant switched network to be deployed at the five Victorian campuses. Deakin has chosen Cisco Systems as the infrastructure vendor for the project and has partnered with Dimension Data to manage the supply and implementation of the new network architecture. Dimension Data is currently working with Deakin for the tendering of cabling services and has also been appointed to maintain all of the Cisco devices within the University."The network upgrade will provide consistent architecture and a platform to improve overall management, and deliver a high performance, reliable and scalable network," said Roland Chia, national business manager, Dimension Data Australia."It will also prepare Deakin University for a converged voice, video and data network, providing for future adoption of multimedia IP applications across the University's campuses," Mr Chia continued."Our relationship with Dimension Data began in 1996, and we value this long term partnership as an important element in bringing the University's strategic vision to fruition," said Mr Warren.- ends -About Dimension Data Dimension Data Holdings plc (LSE: DDT) is a leading global technology services company. It specialises in providing IT solutions that enable businesses to operate seamlessly across Application Networks (the result of the convergence of two previous separate areas of IT: application integration and network infrastructure.) The Group's ability to offer expertise in networking, application integration and global managed services makes it uniquely positioned to deliver the IT solutions required by businesses to connect devices, information, applications, business processes, people and organisations. Dimension Data, founded in 1983, had revenues of $2.5 billion in 2001 and operates in 30+ countries with over 9,500 employees.

Contacts

Martin Aungle
+61 2 8249 5502
mailto: Martin.Aungle@didata.com.au