



Nortel Tailors Always-On Data Network for Macquarie University

Education Solution Designed to Support Thousands of New Users, Devices

Sydney's Macquarie University has invested in a new data network from Nortel* [NYSE/TSX: NT] to deliver always-on access for more than 30,000 students, both on-campus and online.

The new network, designed and implemented by Nortel and 3D Networks, will completely replace the University's existing infrastructure, and result in a more reliable, scalable platform for future IP services such as multimedia, video conferencing and IP telephony. It will also provide added security and always-on reliability for an increasing percentage of students completing their coursework online.

"As we migrate more and more business critical services like lectures and exam results to the Web, our old and complex network infrastructure has been showing its age," said Peter Hole, infrastructure services manager, Macquarie University. "We're increasingly becoming dependent on our network and it's imperative that it be able to keep up with the demands of the University."

"Our network is very different from a corporate or government network because the number of connections and users is much higher, the spread of the network much greater, and we don't have as much control over the types of connected devices," Hole said. "You could also say our users are very different – a generation for whom technology is not 'magic' and 24/7 uptime is expected. It was also critical for the new network to build on the core of our dedicated security network from Nortel that we installed two years ago."

"There's no such thing as a one-size-fits-all network, especially when it comes to complex environments like universities," said Mark Stevens, managing director, Australia and New Zealand, Nortel. "Hyperconnectivity – where everything that can be connected, will be – is not a passing phase that can be addressed with off-the-shelf products or last-generation technology. It requires a strategy that simplifies the network from the outset so that managing the various layers of infrastructure is made easier, even as the network grows over time. In the case of Macquarie, with whom we have worked with for many years, our goal was to make the network easy to deploy and manage, and not add in any way to the complex challenges of the environment it's supporting."

"We chose Nortel not because we were already using its security core – other vendors on the shortlist demonstrated their interoperability with the core – but because Nortel gave us a 'tailor-made suit' compared to other vendors' 'generic suit with the pants taken up to fit,'" Hole said. "Our number one priority was network reliability, and Nortel had already proven that to us. Other benefits, like 10G speeds and Power-over-Ethernet support, will certainly be useful as we embark on the next phase of preparing the network for campus-wide IP telephony and multimedia services."

Nortel's solution replaces older switches that interfaced with Nortel Ethernet Routing Switch (ERS) 8600s used in the security core. It also includes 44 ERS 5530s, 26 ERS 5520s - both 24- and 48-port, and 196 ERS 4548s. Also included is Nortel's Secure Network Access Solution for real-time verification of devices connecting to the network.

Macquarie University is an example of how Nortel is transforming the educational environment with innovations in unified communications, advanced security and wireless mobility designed to enhance collaboration and enrich the learning experience.

Nortel Education Solutions for colleges, universities and other institutions of higher education provide secure access to campus resources and enhanced student, faculty and staff interaction using advanced multimedia applications delivered over converged IP networks. Recent education wins for Nortel in Asia include RMIT University, Edith Cowan University, VERNet and the University of Western Sydney in Australia, the University of Tsukuba in Japan and the China University of Petroleum.

About Nortel

Nortel is a recognized leader in delivering communications capabilities that make the promise of Business Made Simple a reality for our customers. Our next-generation technologies, for both service provider and enterprise networks, support multimedia and business-critical applications.

Nortel's technologies are designed to help eliminate today's barriers to efficiency, speed and performance by simplifying networks and connecting people to the information they need, when they need it. Nortel does business in more than 150 countries around the world. For more information, visit Nortel on the Web at www.nortel.com. For the latest Nortel news, visit www.nortel.com/news.

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