SUN MICROSYSTEMS APPOINTS DIMENSION DATA AS PREFERRED PARTNER FOR AUSTRALIAN EDUCATION SECTOR

Sun Microsystems (SUNW) has signed Dimension Data as its preferred partner for the education sector, encompassing K-12, tertiary, university and research institutions. Under the new agreement, Dimension Data will work closely with Sun Microsystems to deliver enhanced data centre and security solutions.At present Sun works with a majority of Australian universities and together with Dimension Data will further increase market share in the education and research space.Our long partnership with Sun Microsystems, depth of skill in Sun technologies and relationships with a broad range of educational and research institutions in Australia will enable Dimension Data to provide enhanced consolidated infrastructure solutions to this market. " With this partnership with Sun, and Dimension Datas significant expertise and strong heritage in data centres, IP convergence, networking and security, we can further assist our education clients to reduce the cost and complexity of their IT environments, said Ronnie Altit, national business manager, data centre solutions, Dimension Data. Dimension Data has a proven track record in the education sector, providing plan, build and support services to research and educational institutions throughout Australia for more than 15 years. Dimension Datas clients in this sector include University of Technology Sydney, Deakin University, Queensland Department of Education and the Arts, Adelaide University and Edith Cowan University."Deakin University has had a fruitful partnership over 15 years with Dimension Data and its predecessor organisation. In recent years, Deakin University has utilised Dimension Data professional services to fill gap areas in its IT knowledge and to work side-by-side in rollouts of large enhancements to infrastructure, such as 4,500 IP telephony handsets currently in the final stages of deployment," said Craig Warren, operational services provision manager, Deakin University.In addition, Deakin's student management system, Callista, is powered by Sun's robust Sun Fire(TM) 15K server, whilst its School of Engineering and Technology, located at the Waurn Ponds Campus in Geelong, benefits from a 10 node strong HPC grid deployed as part of the university's Industrial Modelling Visualisation Haptics and Optimisation project, and consists of 10 Sun Fire(TM) V20z dual Opteron(TM) servers. In September 2003, Dimension Data, working together with WebCentral as its incumbent Sun Microsystems service provider, leveraged its experience with Sun to source and integrate Sun hardware and Sun Java(TM) System (formerly known as Sun ONE) infrastructure into WebCentral's enterprise-grade hosting environment as part of the Managed Internet Service that WebCentral provides to Education Queenslands (now the Queensland Department of Education and the Arts) 1,350 schools. At the time, it was the largest Managed Internet Service in and one of the largest Java System software installations in the world.Dimension Data currently works with the Queensland Department of Education and the Arts in the areas of network infrastructure, security, and identity management.Dimension Data has been a key Sun partner in Australia for over 10 years. In August this year, Dimension Data was recognised in Suns annual partner awards as Sun ServiceManager(SM) of the Year, and System Provider of the Year in both Victoria and Western Australia.We have a strong history with Dimension Data, working closely together for 10 years. Under the new partnership, customers in the education sector will benefit from our combined experience in data centre networking and security, said Andrew Boulus, National Manager Education and Research for Sun Microsystems. Together, we look forward to helping Australian educators use and adapt technology to enhance the learning experience, continued Boulus.To initiate the new partnership, Sun and Dimension Data are offering Australian universities the opportunity to apply for an education grant to spend on a data profiling consultancy valued at up to $10,000. The data profiling service provides organisations with a detailed view of the capacity, underlying nature (including ageing and duplicate file analysis) and file system information of their storage environment. The offer is open for applications until Friday, 16 December 2006, and enquiries can be directed to Andrew Boulus at andrew.boulus@sun.com- Ends -About Sun Microsystems, Inc.A singular vision -- "The Network Is The Computer"[tm] -- guides Sun in the development of technologies that power the world's most important markets. Sun's philosophy of sharing innovation and building communities is at the forefront of the next wave of computing: the Participation Age. Sun can be found in more than 100 countries and on the Web at sun.com.About Sun in EducationSun is a leading provider of open network computing solutions to colleges and universities around the world, powering academic, research and high performance computing systems, campus administration, digital libraries and student instruction systems. In addition, Sun is committed to connecting the world's students to the Internet, beginning with primary and secondary schools and extending to all levels of higher education. For information about Sun in Education, please visit http://www.sun.com/edu. About Dimension Data Dimension Data plc (LSE:DDT), a specialist IT services and solution provider, helps clients plan, build and support their IT infrastructures. Dimension Data applies its expertise in networking, security, operating environments, storage and contact centre technologies and its unique skills in consulting, integration and managed services to create customised client solutions.

Contacts

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