



Ormiston Senior College

Personalised e-Learning Made Easy with Aerohive Wi-Fi

Requirements

- Needed consistent wireless access for mixed Mac / Windows / Android BYOD environment with numerous model desktops, laptops and handheld devices
- Sought a wireless solution that could scale efficiently and cost-effectively, with users expected to grow by 900% within next five years
- Having no campus-based IT staff, low touch simple-to-use management was required
- Required cloud-enabled WLAN solution for maximum flexibility and resilience

Results

- Cloud-based e-learning network enables continuity in education and communication, even in case of disaster
- The simple-to-use Aerohive HiveManager Network Management System minimised college's OPEX, allowing investment in other areas of technology
- Twenty Aerohive Access Points provide complete campus-wide WLAN coverage
- In spite of many different types of devices, including laptops, desktops, smart phones etc, connectivity issues have not been a problem

About Ormiston

When Ormiston Senior College (OSC) first opened its doors in February 2011, students walked into a state-of-the-art educational facility that was purpose-built for the 21st century. Designed by a team of award-winning architects, the campus has been developed around the school's philosophy of delivering personalised learning based on the individual needs of each student.

Located near Auckland in New Zealand, the school has an enrolment capacity of 1000 students for Years 11 to 13. The single building structure houses multi-purpose learning spaces, auditorium, library and gymnasium, as well as the school cafeteria and an internal atrium referred to as The Plaza.

"Before we issued a RFP for the WLAN we researched what the wireless market and industry had to say, even speaking to other schools in the region who had deployed Wi-Fi to achieve similar goals to ours. The reviews from Aerohive customers, agents and industry analysts were very positive."

—**William Madgwick**

Deputy Principal, Ormiston Senior College

The Opportunity

The opportunity to design the school from the ground up had seen OSC seek out innovative approaches to technology that could support the school in the delivery of its learning ethos. The result was the decision to provide students with completely cloud-based learning applications accessed through desktops, laptops and personal student devices from anywhere on campus.

William Madgwick, Deputy Principal of Ormiston Senior College, holds responsibility for ICT strategy at the school and comments, "One of our technology goals was ensuring the continuity of learning and communication, even in the event of a disaster. Web-based educational resources made sense from an access and availability aspect, and the ability to connect outside of the classroom was a must-have," Madgwick concludes.

The Solution

OSC's decision to invest in a WLAN from Aerohive followed a comprehensive selection process that saw solutions presented from multiple vendors.

Computer Concepts Limited (CCL) responded to the RFP with a proposed solution of twenty Aerohive Access Points and the

HiveManager for zero touch deployment and centralised management and administration. CCL's proposition was due in part to Aerohive's industry-leading controller-less architecture, making enterprise-class network management achievable without the costs and performance issues usually associated with controller deployments.

CCL ultimately won the contract for the supply, installation and maintenance of the WLAN by demonstrating a solution with a superior price-performance ratio backed by first-class support from Aerohive themselves and their distributor in New Zealand, Connector Systems.

The flexibility offered by HiveManager was one of the advantages in the solution recognised by OSC. The ability to house the management system either in the cloud, as software on a virtual server, or as a physical appliance, was a valuable benefit to the school when it came to designing their core network. OSC was able to focus purely on the design of the network without questioning compatibility requirements with the Wi-Fi management system, increasing the level of control over their costs.

Easy-to-manage

One of the most surprising aspects for OSC of their Aerohive WLAN has been just how straightforward the solution has been to manage. Rather than hire a campus-based technical resource, OSC have outsourced management of their ICT needs to Computer Concepts Limited (CCL). William Madgwick, Deputy Principal of OSC acts as an interface between network users and CCL, which sees him keeping an eye on the overall health of the WLAN, users and devices via HiveManager Online, and easily deploying profile changes to the Access Points if needed.

The ease-of-management of their Aerohive solution has allowed OSC to minimise operational expenditure, investing what would otherwise be spent on managing their network into advancements in technology.

E-Learning delivered wirelessly and securely

OSC have realised their own expectation that any wireless device within the school should be able to connect from anywhere to their online learning resources, whether they be school-owned computers, handheld devices or phones brought in by students and staff.

This flexibility sees learning and communication possible outside of the classroom environment. The sight of teachers with laptops conducting one-on-one review meetings with students in the cafeteria is common at OSC, as is students accessing learning resources through their iPhones during their lunch break.

"Our Aerohive wireless network is critical for students and staff," advises William Madgwick, Deputy Principal of Ormiston Senior College. "We have an e-learning network which is always on and always available from anywhere in the school. Unlike alternative solutions, if we lose the 'uplink' to the cloud the school Wi-Fi continues to function."

Future-planned expansions maximise R.O.I

OSC currently have over two hundred students enrolled at the college, representing 20% of their enrolment capacity (over 300 next year). The Aerohive Wi-Fi network consisting of twenty Access Points in total provides coverage across the school and is scalable up to one thousand users.

The college also plans to roll out the Aerohive TeacherView application and Location Services next year, which will again incur no additional costs for OSC.

TeacherView is a simple-to-use application for the management and control of student Wi-Fi access during lesson time. The web interface enables teachers to view at a glance the connectivity status of all computers within the classroom. Teachers can also redirect students to specific URLs, as well as enable or disable wireless access.

"The Aerohive network reliability in addition with these applications is absolutely imperative to our goal of personalised learning", concludes Madgwick.



Contact us today to learn how your organization can benefit from Aerohive wireless LAN architecture.

Aerohive Networks, Inc.
330 Gibraltar Drive
Sunnyvale, CA 94089

toll free 1-866-918-9918
phone 408-510-6100
fax 408-510-6199

www.aerohive.com
info@aerohive.com
CS-EDU-1205309