



# Tennessee Tech University

## Tennessee Tech University Extends Reliable, Centrally Managed WLAN throughout its Sprawling Campus with Aerohive

### Challenges

- Tennessee Tech University needed an easy to deploy, cost-effective enterprise-class wireless network.
- With so many types of devices on a university campus, the Information Technology Services department was confronted with device management complexities, including BYOD.
- The university also needed a wireless LAN that would integrate with the existing network infrastructure for a simple migration that was easy to manage and would scale cost-effectively across the campus.

### Results

- Applications with high-performance connectivity have increased students' and professors' productivity in the classroom.
- A resilient wireless network created a secure learning environment that maintained access for visitors.
- The network was easy for ITS to manage, monitor and control from a central location, which gave its staff more time to do their work without traveling across the campus.

### About Tennessee Tech University

The state's only public technological university, Tennessee Tech University (TTU) is nationally ranked and offers more than 40 undergraduate and 20 graduate programs across six academic divisions. The university consists of 87 buildings on more than 200 acres and enrolls more than 11,700 students.

The university is governed by the Tennessee Board of Regents. Founded in 1915, it is approximately an hour east of Nashville in Cookeville, Tenn.

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—Jerry Boyd

Director of Network Services and Operations,  
Tennessee Tech University

### The Problem

Like most universities and organizations, TTU needs to stretch its budget and make its investments matter.

Jerry Boyd, director of network services and operations for TTU, was well aware of this as he assessed the aging network infrastructure upon which the university's students, teachers and community relied.

"As the environment changes, we have to adapt to it," Boyd said. "That's one of the nice things about Aerohive; we're not concerned at all about controllers, which limit how quickly we can grow a network."

With the Aerohive system, ITS will be able to add more access points as the university grows and demand increases.

### The Results and Benefits

Boyd said Aerohive's Bonjour Gateway is one of the features he is looking forward to using the most because of the high number of Apple products on campus.

Aerohive's Bonjour Gateway makes Apple services such as AirPrint, AirPlay and remote display with Apple TV usable across large networks.

The capabilities that Bonjour enables are very attractive to enterprises and educational institutions for their ease of use and ability to help make BYOD initiatives more productive. And Aerohive's patent-pending Bonjour Gateway is designed to vastly simplify the support of Apple compatible devices at universities.

With Aerohive BR100 Routers, administrators set up one configuration for remote devices via the HiveManager interface; when the BR100 is plugged in, it discovers the HiveManager automatically.

The BR100 enables administrators to run a thousand remote office VPNs as easily as a single location. In addition to 802.11n WiFi, the BR100 supports multiple SSIDs and VLANs shared across wired and wireless interfaces, which can be configured in a number of ways to handle any small office/teleworker requirements.

"We're looking at those for the VPN-type access — people working from home or people who are traveling and need a secure solution to get back into (the network)," Boyd said.

Those who travel and need BR100s include university administrators, the ITS team and athletic recruiters.

Tennessee Tech's classrooms have mobile online learning environments, which allow students to log in to a virtual desktop using any device. The environment supports the BYOD reality and Aerohive plays a key role in the system.

TTU began implementing the Aerohive network in the spring of 2011.



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

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