The University of León masters digital disruption, creating a connected learning environment where students can thrive and excel.

University of León

Size:	More than 12,500 students and 1500 staff
Industry:	Higher Education
Location:	Spain

Solutions

- Optimize innovation and learning capabilities by creating a highly connected, easy-to-manage IT platform

"The new Cisco WiFi infrastructure will change forever the learning lives of our students and teaching staff."

Francisco Pérez Laorden
Head of Communications
University of León

Digital tsunami

The IT team at the University of León was battling a digital tidal wave. With increasing numbers of mobile users and devices, the campus wireless network was being pushed beyond its original capabilities. Inevitably, users' experiences began to suffer.

"It was clear students and teachers were unhappy," says Francisco Pérez Laorden, head of communications. "Wireless performance had slowed, so it was being used less and less."

These limitations were also stalling innovation in teaching, the university's bold vision for virtual learning, and the delivery of video-based educational content. There had to be a better way.

Connected classroom

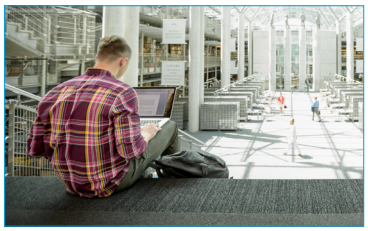
The university tested products from three vendors. "We found Cisco® access points were easiest to manage and the most robust with the same solid performance as our wired infrastructure," says Perez.

With Cisco Wireless, the university can support 5000 concurrent users with 100 percent coverage across the campus.

Now, students are learning anywhere, anytime using any device. As a result, the university has seen a 70 percent rise in wireless traffic.

Supplementing what they've learned in the classroom, students can also get video content streamed directly to their mobile device. This wasn't possible before.

Innovative connected classroom learning, now with 100% WiFi coverage



Enhance student experience with faster access to information, anywhere on campus

Consistent access with reliable, highly available wired and wireless networking for more connected learning

For More Information

To learn more about the Cisco solutions featured in this case study, visit:

www.cisco.com/go/customerstories

www.cisco.com/go/wireless

www.cisco.com/go/education

Greater control

The wired and wireless networks are managed together with ease through Cisco Prime™ Infrastructure. With one single view, the IT team can locate and fix issues much faster than before. And they can proactively monitor and control network usage and allocation.

"Cisco Prime simplified the network usage view," says Perez. "We have seen a reduction in complaints from students and staff regarding network availability."

Learn anywhere, anytime.

Teachers are able to confidently use online resources for live teaching sessions without worrying about bandwidth glitches.

With improved WiFi, students have access to online learning resources—on demand and one thousand times quicker than before.

Both staff and students enjoy a much faster and more reliable experience.

The university's networks—now equipped with Cisco Aironet® 1600 and Aironet 2700 access points—are more adept in meeting evolving bandwidth and services requirements, while optimizing new application deployments with Cisco Catalyst® switches.

Clear path for innovation

New possibilities for education have opened up. With secure, reliable, wired and wireless networking, the university is able to deploy more on-demand applications and add more devices. It previously struggled with this due to bandwidth and optimization ceilings.

Pérez sums up: "Using video as a platform to extend the breadth of education exposure from staff to student, and the depth of content reached by students, will enable a whole transformation in the educational experience."

Products and Services

Wireless

- Cisco Aironet 1700 Series Access Points and Cisco Aironet 2700 Series (802.11ac)
- Cisco 8500 Series Wireless Controller

Switching

- Cisco Catalyst 2960 and 6500 Series Switches

Management

- Cisco Prime Infrastructure 2.2

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ES/0716