



Edinburgh Napier University

Edinburgh Napier University opened in 1964 as Napier Technical College, offering a number of vocational courses. Today, the University has nearly 18,000 students from 115 different countries and is comprised of three main disciplines: The Business School, The Faculty of Engineering, Computing & Creative Industries, and The Faculty of Health, Life & Social Sciences.



In January 2011, the University opened its doors to Sighthill Campus, a new hub dedicated to health, science and sports education.

In the past, the University had utilised leased fibre services to transfer student records and course information. However, Edinburgh Napier was looking for a more cost-effective, secure, and reliable way to provide fibre equivalent connectivity between its Craiglockhart and Sighthill Campuses.

Special consideration was also needed for the historic Craiglockhart building to ensure that the exterior of the building was not compromised.

The University contacted Boston Networks, a UK-based leader in the design, installation and support of high-performance wireless and intelligent building systems, to assist in identifying a solution that met their needs for reliable, secure, and affordable carrier-grade connectivity.

Boston Networks selected BridgeWave's GE80, a high capacity, gigabit Ethernet wireless system for its ability to provide carrier-grade network performance. The system was deployed within two weeks, giving the University the capacity, security, and reliability needed to support their growing IT requirements.

Prior to the network upgrade, the University relied heavily on leased Metro Area Ethernet; an exorbitantly costly and time consuming solution that typically took 90+ days to deploy. However, by sourcing a carrier-grade wireless solution, the University achieved ROI in under 18 months.

CHALLENGES:

- Identify a reliable, secure, cost-effective fibre-like wireless network solution
- Maintain the historical integrity of the University's listed buildings using unobtrusive systems

BRIDGEWAVE SOLUTION:

- GE80 gigabit Ethernet wireless system

BENEFITS:

- Set up in days, as opposed to the 90+ days it would take to service with fibre
- Able to achieve ROI in under 18 months
- Fibre-equivalent performance — true gigabit transmission with low latency

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"The high bandwidth solution from Boston Networks, utilising BridgeWave technology, has saved the University enormously on cost, lead-time and the disruption normally associated with a traditional fibre install."

*- Iain Russell,
Infrastructure Depute Director
Edinburgh Napier University*