



United Learning Trust
The best in everyone

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Salford City Academy is a United Learning Trust Academy (ULT) which is situated in the Peel Green area of Salford. The Academy has valuable links with post 16 education providers and with the Salford University. It also has 'Training School Status' which enhances its reputation as a centre of excellence for training potential teachers. Its growing collaboration with such educational areas of excellence will generate real opportunities for its students.

Designed by award winning architects, AEDAS AHR Architects Ltd, the new Academy building opened in September 2006. Currently Salford City Academy has the capacity for 750 students between the ages of 11 and 16 years. In September 2007 Salford City Academy will open the doors to its new Sixth Form centre, which will include both vocational and academic courses.

Salford City Academy has a specialisation in Sport and Business & Enterprise. This is underpinned by the fact that the new Academy building provides state-of-the-art facilities for generations of students and staff at the Academy. Facilities include sports facilities that rival the best in the country, a recording studio and a Learning Resource Centre that will incorporate a Library and an out of hours Study Support Centre.

The Academy has an uncompromising approach to standards of discipline and an emphasis on positive behaviour. The emphasis on behaviour and standards of effort in work is non-negotiable. We expect our students to develop a work ethic that will remain with them for life. Salford City Academy will assist students in their spiritual, intellectual, creative, physical and emotional growth. This is developed with a Christian ethos that pervades all aspects of school life.

European Electronique worked closely with United Learning Trust, Salford City Academy sponsor, to fine tune the Academy's requirements and provide best advice and guidance on; design, planning, project management and support of the entire ICT infrastructure.

Detailed below is a brief statement relating to each of the key areas of the project;

Converged Infrastructure – Design, Implementation and Full Managed Service

Utilising Cisco's industry leading technology, the network was built around two fully resilient Cisco Catalyst 4507R chassis switches with a mixture of Cisco 3560 switching devices at the edge. The network provides fault tolerant wire speed gigabit connectivity to servers, edge switches and users. Where required, power is provided via 3560 power over ethernet switches, delivering electricity to Wireless Access Points and IP Telephones reducing the requirements for electrical cabling and sockets. The network has been designed to provide the Academy with a fully redundant

infrastructure, which is easy to manage, is highly secure and will facilitate learning for many years to come.

Cisco AireSpace technology is used extensively to ensure Wireless access is available throughout the whole building. This centrally controlled solution dynamically tunes the wireless environment, to make it possible for multi access point enabled Laptop trolleys to be utilised anywhere in the building. 802.1x Authentication is used to secure the wireless network, controlling wireless access to the Academy's network, applications and resources for Staff, Students and Guests.

A feature rich Cisco CallManager IP Telephony system has been implemented providing authorised users with advanced simple to use features such as; "follow me" extension numbers; recorded announcements; conference calling and automated call distribution.

A IPTV solution captures, stores and distributes live and pre-recorded Video and TV content. The content can be displayed on Academy PCs, Laptops, PDAs, Plasma Display Screens and Interactive Whiteboards. This solution allows the Academy's management team to stream informative messages to single or multiple plasma display screens and client devices around the Academy network.

Network Services

European Electronique delivered a complete range of network services based on Microsoft's Server 2003, Exchange, ISA and SQL technologies. A fully resilient Dell Server and Storage infrastructure has been provided to ensure 100% availability to Academy networked services and user data stores. All services and user data stores are fully backed up, both on and off line, and archived to removable tape storage within a Dell high capacity automated Ultrium Tape Library. All data and services are protected from Virus' by Symantec Enterprise Manager Software.

Software Systems

European Electronique delivered a complete range of network operating systems and applications based on Microsoft's Server 2003, Exchange, ISA and SQL technologies. Surf Control and Symantec Enterprise Manager were installed and configured to provide secure controlled Internet access and Anti Virus protection. Symantec Ghost was provided to allow simple PC and Laptop image creation and delivery, Veritas Backup Exec and agents were installed to allow the backup of all services and user data stores.

The Academy procured a Microsoft Schools Agreement through The United Learning Trust to licence their all their Microsoft requirements.

European Electronique is working with Salford City Academy, The United Learning Trust and Salford Local Authority to access a suitable Virtual Learning Platform for the Academy. Once Selected European Electronique will work with the Academy to Deliver and integrate the solution with existing systems.

UPS Power Management

Uninterruptible Power Supplies were supplied and installed by European Electronique, providing electrical conditioning and emergency power backup to the Academy infrastructure in the event of a power spikes and outages.

"One for All" Card Services with MIS integration

European Electronique provided a Nedap e-Registration solution which facilitates the registration of students in the classroom via proximity ID cards. All registration data is automatically uploaded into the Academy's SIMS Management Information System to highlight any late or absent pupils. A

Cummings Cashless Catering solution and an Access IT Library Management system were provided and accessed via the same student card. Both Academy students and staff were given these ID cards, which were configured to allow secure access the Academy's Catering, Library, Access Control and Printing systems. All Academy systems integrated with the Academy SIMS Management Information System.

Client Devices

European Electronique provided approximately 300 Dell and Apple based PCs and 200 Dell and Apple based Notebooks. All devices were installed, which included the consultancy, design, creation, testing and rollout of software images and the physical securing and cabling of devices into The Academy's ICT furniture.

Mobile Classrooms (Laptop Storage)

European Electronique provided custom-made wireless enabled security trolleys for safe storage and recharge of Laptops. Wireless Access points have been integrated with each Lapsafe to enable a minimum of thirty wireless connected laptops to log on to the network in under 60 seconds.

Classroom Presentation Systems

Classroom Presentation Systems were provided for every classroom and breakout area. Equipment was either wall mounted or secured inside teacher's furniture. Items installed included, Promethean Interactive Whiteboards, Sanyo Wireless Projector systems, Samsung Visualisers and Logitech 3.1 audio systems.

Video Conferencing

A Sony video conferencing solution was supplied and installed by European Electronique to allow the Academy to leverage Video Conferencing services provided by the Manchester Education Wide Area Network (MEWAN).

Classroom Teaching Solutions (Music/Multimedia/Languages)

European Electronique supplied and project managed the installation of Salford City Academy's Music Suites and Recording Studios, Language Labs and Video Editing Suites.

Peripheral and other Classroom Equipment

European Electronique provided much in the way of other technology that does not necessarily fit into a single category. Examples include PDAs, digital cameras, camcorders, sewing machines and peripheral equipment

Fully Managed Service and Becta FITS compliance

European Electronique has been entrusted with supporting the Academy's infrastructure. This involves providing a fully managed service for the Academy Network Infrastructure, including proactive monitoring of the network and services. Unlimited telephone support during office hours and remote access for systems was provided 3rd line problem resolution and onsite engineering where required. A leading helpdesk with asset management system was provided and installed for the Academy ICT Staff to report track and catalogue, all faults adds moves and changes.

Project Management

European Electronique supplied, installed, configured and project managed the whole ICT installation for the Academy. European Electronique worked very closely with all stakeholders including

consultants, construction, FF&E, M&E and sponsors to ensure that ICT was at the forefront of building design and operation.

In late spring 2006 the Academy's new systems were presaged in staging facilities in Warrington. In July 2006, after extensive testing, the server and core network infrastructures were relocated to Salford City Academy and re-commissioned. The physical rollout of PC's, printers, Classroom Presentation systems and other ICT equipment was completed in a 4 week window just prior to opening to minimise disruption and reduce any security risk.

Through stringent project management and management reporting by European Electronique the Academy has been delivered a 21st century ICT solution that exceeded expectations, fulfilled user requirements and met financial constraints. The complete project was delivered on time and on budget in September 2006. In testament to this, European Electronique has been appointed by ULT to assist with the ICT solution for Salford City Academy's new Sixth Form Centre due to open in summer 2007.

Training

As a new institution, training was a particularly key element to the project. Full training has been provided to the IT staff on all aspects of the solution. This involved a mixture of manufacturer training courses and training from European Electronique training staff. In addition to this it was considered prudent to make training available to all the teaching and curriculum staff. This was provided in the form of open IT workshops, specific workshops tailored to specialist user groups and floor walking to provide live assistance in the initial weeks of the Academy opening.