

THE BRITISH LIBRARY

chooses UCOPIA and Ruckus for their wireless network

THE PROJECT

Founded in 1972, the British Library is the national library of the United Kingdom.

The British Library offers onsite space for up to 1,200 users at any one time and has over 16,000 people access publications every day (onsite and online). The British Library introduced free wireless provision in 2008 and since then the number of users has significantly increased. As a result of this increase, the existing wireless network could no longer cope with the demand which led British Library to tender for a new managed wireless service to deliver the following.

KEY BENEFITS TO THE BRITISH LIBRARY

Fast, Secure, Reliable Wireless Network

The British Library now benefits from a flexible wireless solution able to adapt to changing levels of demand by load balancing users to maximise bandwidth.

Multiple SSID's enabling separate networks

At British Library they have a number of SSID's in place so that visitors, members and staff can each access different networks with the relevant security settings in place.

Content Filtering Capability

Flexible internet content filtering is in place to control which websites can be accessed over the public network. The British Library is able to make changes to the filtering criteria at any time.



Pinacl Solutions proposed a managed wireless solution that would deliver a robust, scalable, secure and flexible wireless service based on best in class equipment from the industry leading vendors.

The managed wireless solution consists of the following key components:

- Cisco based Local Area Network completely separating the Wireless network from the British Library internal network.
- Redundant Ruckus ZoneDirector wireless controllers and 7372 Wireless Access Points (AP's) providing excellent wireless coverage, throughput and performance.
- Internet content filtering solution based on the SmoothwallWeb Guardian platform
- Web portal and user authentication gateway based on the UCOPIA SV2000 in redundancy solution to manage, provision, and protect the wireless network
- 1Gbps Internet connection
- Pinacl managed service delivering proactive monitoring and support including help desk services for the public

Thanks to the UCOPIA solution, the wireless service provides multiple SSID's enabling the library to offer separate networks with different levels of access to members, visitors and staff. Each SSID has a unique log in page that allows each user to log in with the correct permissions in place.

User activity is monitored and logged at all times with the UCOPIA solution, ensuring that the managed wireless solution complies with all UK and European legislation regarding the provision of Public Wi-Fi services



RESULTS

The Wireless Network now delivers a resilient, reliable service, 7 days a week, to more than 1000 concurrent users during peak times Monday - Friday