

Unlocking the digital campus: A use case for seamless and secure connectivity



This use case outlines how a modern university addressed the growing demand for uninterrupted internet access to support a range of activities, including in-person and hybrid classes, as well as remote and hybrid work for faculty and staff. The primary goal was to enhance the learning experience for students while improving the flexibility, productivity and security for the entire university community.

Challenge

The university faced significant challenges in maintaining reliable connectivity. Frequent internet dropouts during classes disrupted the flow of instruction, making it difficult for professors to utilize essential online tools like video demonstrations and VR simulations. These interruptions undermined the quality of education and caused frustration for both students and instructors. A second major concern was data security. The reliance on public Wi-Fi or personal Wi-Fi tethering for remote work and study exposed sensitive proprietary data—including student records, faculty research and administrative information—to significant security risks. The university needed a solution that not only ensured connectivity but also protected its valuable data assets.

Solution

To address these challenges, the university implemented laptops with integrated cellular connectivity. This approach provided a secure, cloud-based framework that protects data without relying on insecure public networks. By equipping faculty and staff with laptops that have built-in secure 5G connectivity, the university was able to provide virtually seamless internet access from any

location. This helped to eliminate the dependency on potentially unreliable Wi-Fi and mitigate the security risks associated with unsecure network access. This also enabled the university to provide more engaging and immersive classes, such as through the use of virtual reality for demonstrations.

Benefits

Implementing 5G connected laptops yields several key benefits:

- **Enhanced learning experiences:** Students and professors are afforded virtually uninterrupted access to online resources, thereby rendering classes more engaging and dynamic. The seamless integration of rich media, such as videos and virtual reality content, significantly elevates the educational experience. Furthermore, 5G connected laptops facilitate AI future readiness, supporting teams with both cloud and on-device AI tools from virtually any location.
- **Improved productivity and flexibility:** Faculty and staff can work efficiently from virtually anywhere, whether on campus, at home or while traveling. This flexibility boosts productivity.
- **Strengthened security:** The use of a secure, enterprise-grade and cloud-based solution helps protect proprietary and sensitive data, reducing the risk of data breaches associated with public or unsecure networks.

Conclusion

By adopting a connectivity solution centered on 5G connected laptops, the university can overcome its challenges of unreliable internet and data security. This approach not only helps provide virtually uninterrupted access for all stakeholders, but also establishes a powerful, seamless and secure digital environment. This use case demonstrates how investing in reliable and secure connectivity directly contributes to a better, more flexible and safer academic and professional experience, reinforcing the university's commitment to excellence and innovation.