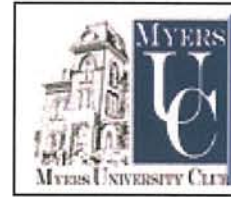


# IP Communications Case Study

## Convergence in Higher Education - Myers University



### Customer Profile:

Myers University is located in downtown Cleveland and provides degree programs for students in business, technology and professional fields. In an effort to expand the campus and mission of the University, Myers purchased the old University Club in midtown. As a result, university officials were in need of a versatile, fully converged network infrastructure that could be integrated across campus.

### Business Challenges:

The Myers IT staff was faced with renovating the University Club, a 19<sup>th</sup> century "millionaire's mansion" which was considered to be a historical landmark. Officials involved in the project wanted to maintain its unique architecture, replace the building's outdated analog telephones, and update the building with an infrastructure that could support campus-wide voice, video and data communications.

Configuring the voice and data network would prove to be physically challenging. Electrical wiring in the building was outdated, and the old architecture made installation difficult. Faced with numerous obstacles, Myers sought a partner with expertise and knowledge of diverse convergence technologies to assist in designing a technology plan to meet its business requirements.

### Solution Summary:

MCPc partnered with the IT staff at Myers University to develop a detailed plan for integrating voice, data and video. Systems engineers outfitted each building with gigabit connections to desktops and voice over IP. Using a fiber optic data network that could link the buildings on campus while delivering phone and data traffic, Internet and phone connectivity were available at every workstation. MCPc's plan lowered the overall cost, since the project didn't require two competing networks. In addition, more phones could be added to new buildings simultaneously, providing additional network connectivity and eliminating the need to install separate cabling.

The new network consisted of more than 100 phones, hundreds of "network drops", a VoIP phone system, a core-network of Cisco switches and wireless access points supporting voice, video and data. Phase II of the project will be completed in August, 2005, when 80 phones at the newly renovated Chester Hall will tie into the existing network.

### Conclusion:

MCPc successfully designed and implemented a VoIP solution for the staff and students at Myers University. Benefits of the project include:

- Consolidation of voice, data and wireless
- High speed connectivity with access to online learning tools
- Seamless deployment for ease of use and greater manageability
- Delivery of new technologies across campus
- Adaptability to future business requirements

### **Business Considerations**

- Flexible, easily managed voice-over-IP solution
- Deployment of a campus-wide converged network
- High speed data communication, voice and wireless connectivity

*"We couldn't have asked for a better partner than MCPc."*

*From the planning stage through the installation and implementation, their group was always there for us. They always had a solution for any eventuality that arose. They are true professionals in the IT arena."*

Dan Holahan,  
Myers University



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