



K-12 EDUCATION  
CASE STUDY

## Indus International School

### Indus International School relies on Aruba to drive excellence in Wi-Fi infrastructure

Located in Bangalore, India and run by the Indus Trust, Indus International School provides a completely balanced environment focused on shaping children into leaders of tomorrow.

Founded on the ethos of In Omnia Paratus – prepared for all challenges – the school offers a unique and well-defined curriculum and a dedication to learning beyond classroom. More than 950 students from 28 countries participate in programs starting with prep and continuing through Grade 12.

Since its founding in July 2003, the Indus family of international schools has grown to include campuses in Bangalore, Hyderabad, Pune, and the world’s first international school for children below the poverty line at Bangalore.

Today, the school remains steadfastly focused on using technology to improve learning. This meant equipping its students with computers in the classrooms as well as providing e-learning facilities, collaborative technologies and access to the Internet. The school needed reliable, secure, and scalable network infrastructure in order to execute on this strategy.

“When we first started out, Wi-Fi technology was relatively new,” said Rakesh Pandey, director ICT of Indus Trust. “However, we saw the benefits that it offered in an educational setting and began to explore how we could leverage it effectively.”

#### Early exploration turns into mission-critical deployment

After early wireless LAN (WLAN) deployments using Cisco and D-Link equipment, the school recognized that it needed to standardize on a solution that would provide the mission-critical reliability that students needed along with the operational effectiveness required by the IT staff. From the beginning, security was a big concern.

“If any sensitive information were to be accessed by unauthorized persons, this could have serious implications,” said Pandey.

In 2007, the school began a diligent evaluation process and considered

WLAN vendors based on five specific criteria: Performance, security, manageability, local support capabilities and total cost of ownership.

Aruba Networks, working in partnership with Srujan Infotech, proved superior to the other solutions in every category. The school immediately deployed the solution on its Bangalore campus and later extended it to the Hyderabad and Pune campuses.

#### Security, simplicity and reliability

By significantly improving WLAN security, the Aruba solution enabled the school to extend more applications and services to students, faculty and staff.



#### Requirements

- High performance
- Security
- Manageability
- Local support capabilities
- Low total cost of ownership

#### Solution

- Aruba 2400 and 3200 Mobility Controllers
- Aruba AP-61 and AP-105 access points (APs)
- Policy Enforcement Firewall (PEF) module

#### Benefits

- High reliability, with Wi-Fi access that is as stable as the wired network
- Improved security has allowed new applications and services to be made available over the WLAN
- Easier implementation of user-based security policies has saved time for staff
- Simplified network management through a single, centralized console

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“We are extremely pleased with the way Aruba’s solution allows us to apply user-based security policies instead of having to rely on complicated VLAN configurations,” said Pandey. “By reducing complexity, our staff has more confidence that their applications will remain secure.”

The school also benefits from having a single, centralized console to manage the entire wireless network. Using Aruba Mobility Controllers has simplified a wide range of ongoing management tasks for the school’s IT staff.

Finally, the school cites improved reliability as a key benefit of the Aruba solution.

“Now, we have a Wi-Fi solution that is actually as stable as our wired network,” Pandey noted. “Aruba is fulfilling our mission to build an infrastructure that supports excellence in all areas.”

### Future plans: Extending the classroom experience across India

Building on the success of the WLAN at its 40-acre campus, the school is now exploring ways to use Aruba’s Virtual Branch Network (VBN) technology to extend the classroom experience remotely.

“The Aruba VBN solution gives us an entirely new capability to interconnect faculty and students in different locations securely, reliably and cost-effectively,” Pandey said. “We are excited about the benefits offered by remote access and how it will enrich the educational environment we want to promote. The simplicity of Aruba’s VBN solution lets us do something we never thought possible.”



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