

Fibre to the Campus for India's Alliance University

On University and College Campuses, large numbers of users need to access and upload data around the clock, from any location and on any device. The underlying network and IT infrastructure needs to accommodate high-speed data transport. High speed infrastructure is also vital to attracting the best students and researchers, who are amongst the most demanding infrastructure users. However, campus networks need to provide more than just bandwidth and speed. Reliability, safety and future-proofing are equally important.

The structure of a typical campus poses several unique challenges during the design and rollout phases. A campus typically consists of a large number of buildings, built over a long period. Most dorm buildings resemble Multiple Dwelling Units, often with congested cable risers. Difficult access to structures and limited access to specific areas inside older buildings mean that networks must be deployed efficiently and rapidly, and should remain in place for decades. Replacing the infrastructure would simply be too difficult, time-consuming and costly.

Critical Considerations

At Alliance University, a private university established in Karnataka, India, fibre networks are enabling a high-speed, always-available network. The renowned university is located on a state-of-the-art campus in Bangalore, where a large number of students reside. It consists of four academic schools and the Alliance School of Business is consistently ranked among India's top ten private business schools. The university is currently in the process of establishing other academic units.

Alliance University required sufficient capacity to handle large amounts of data transmission. Structured cabling solutions were needed to ease the strain on its network and ensure error-free, long-term top performance. Quality and durability were critical to the networking system. Alliance University conducted a survey of various brands and selected R&M to create the cabling infrastructure. In total, 7500 Cat.6 UTP and 800 Cat.6A SFTP copper connections were installed as well as 600 fibre ports with OM3 and singlemode.

The fibre optic cable used in the project has a total length of 30 kilometres. R&M's security system, which reduces concerns about possible downtime, was of great importance to this project.

Further Expansion

Alliance University now has an ultra-flexible, high-capacity network to provide optimum support for data transmission on the campus. The system ensures loss-free data transmission and also offers sufficient reserves to accommodate future growth and new applications. Alliance University will continue to work with R&M on further expanding the network across the campus.

"R&M has helped us commission a secure network with faster data transfer capabilities," explains Santosh Kawari, Head of ITS at Alliance University. "R&M's solutions perfectly met our requirements and we are sure that these products will remain reliable in the long run."