smartoptics
Case study Dimension Data and the G20

G20 Summit gets true plug-and-play connections

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— Harold Blake, Lead Enterprise Architect, Dimension Data

CONNECTING THE WORLD

Dimension Data is a global provider of a wide variety of information technology services: from data centers to security and virtually everything in between. In 2014, the Australian Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (the Department of PM&C) hosted the G20 Leaders Summit, an international gathering of governments and central bank governors from the 20 leading economies.

After responding to an RFP, Dimension Data was selected to serve as the technology partner for the Department of PM&C at the summit. Their responsibility: provide the infrastructure and wireless networking services to connect more than 7,000 world leaders, delegates and media during the two-day event, held in Brisbane. According to Harold Blake, Lead Enterprise Architect, Dimension Data, "In an undertaking of this prestige and of this size, there was no margin for error."

ACCELERATING SUCCESS

Dimension Data's motto is to accelerate the ambitions of its clients. To do that for the G20 Leaders Summit meant creating a temporary, cloud-based, secure network for the world's most influential leaders. One that would never experience downtime or lag issues.

The Dimension Data solution had three components: dual cloud platforms in Sydney and Melbourne that delivered media services. The secure wireless network inside the convention center. And integration of ancillary sites, including hotels and offices, that created a secure communications zone.

TRULY PLUG AND PLAY

Smartoptics were brought in based on their long track record working with Dimension Data installations. Specifically, Dimension Data provisioned the Smartoptics M-Series, an intelligent 1U DWDM multiplexer. Through it, any

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combination of traffic up to 100Gbps can be easily connected together on the same system. Negating the need for more traditional telecom-based DWDM systems, and their price tag and complexities. "We used Smartoptics to establish two internet feeds of 10G each," noted Blake. "And to cross connect all the different sites involved in the summit. We had to make everything work without knowing anything about fiber quality."

Everything about the approach to the G20 Leaders Summit had to be flexible. That's because even days before the event, organizers weren't given the exact number of users for the temporary system for security reasons. According to Blake, "Some systems promise plug and play. But Smartoptics M-Series delivers on that promise. Their system provides all the features we needed to handle situations that arose on a moment's notice." And because M-Series doesn't take a lot of power—just 68W fully loaded— it was the ideal solution for the Department of PM&C G20 temporary network.

Harold Blake
Lead Enterprise Architect,
Dimension Data

ABOUT SMARTOPTICS

Smartoptics offers optical transmission solutions making networks more powerful. Expanding bandwidth without the upfront investment or hassle of traditional WDM. Our products allow corporate data centers, governments, hosting solution providers and ISPs to build simple, straightforward and cost effective solutions to fulfill their ongoing and future network capacity needs. Headquartered in Oslo, Norway, Smartoptics is an international provider with thousands of installations all around the world. Our award winning approach has helped companies from every industry sector stay ahead of expanding network demands.

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Ryensvingen 7
0680 Oslo
Norway
+47 21 41 74 00

info@smartopics
smartoptics.com