



TITHE AN OIREACHTAIS HOUSES OF THE OIREACHTAS

The Irish National Parliament, Houses of The Oireachtas, deploys Alcatel-Lucent converged network linking 200 locations.

The Irish National Parliament (Oireachtas) has deployed an Alcatel-Lucent converged IP network to improve the communications services that can be delivered to users irrespective of their location. The installation, which was carried out by Alcatel-Lucent business partner NextiraOne Ireland, involved converging an Alcatel-Lucent telephony solution with an Alcatel-Lucent data solution at Leinster House in Dublin, home of Dáil Eireann and Seanad Éireann - the two houses of the Oireachtas.

Due to the pressing nature of its business, the Oireachtas must constantly ensure that users receive a high level of service from its information and communications technology (ICT) unit. The organisation's new telephony solution is an Alcatel-Lucent's OmniPCX Enterprise communications system which is now fully integrated into the Alcatel-Lucent local area network (LAN) allowing the Oireachtas to take advantage of new technologies such as VOIP within the organisation.

In order to reduce costs and improve interaction between staff, the ICT Unit examined the potential to build on this solution and utilise IP communications as a way of effectively integrating remote sites and users - giving them the same functionality as employees based in Leinster House.

The resulting solution has therefore allowed for the connectivity of 200 remote sites across the WAN

back to the Houses of the Oireachtas.

The solution allows for the introduction of unified communications technology in order to facilitate easy access to voicemail and fax messages, and further enhance internal communications across the organisation.

As part of a competitive public procurement process conducted in accordance with national and EU procurement guidelines, the Oireachtas evaluated solutions from several leading communications vendors before opting for Alcatel-Lucent's converged offering. The Oireachtas has based its new converged solution on the Alcatel-Lucent OmniSwitch data portfolio incorporating chassis and stackable versions and the OmniPCX Enterprise IP telephony platform, and has installed 1,100 IP extensions with Alcatel-Lucent 4068 IP Touch handsets.

To ensure all users benefit from the additional functionality of the IP network, Alcatel-Lucent's platform allows for the future roll-out of Alcatel-Lucent's OmniTouch Unified Communications solutions to provide users with unified messaging, personal call routing and management, and instant audio conferencing and workgroup voice and data communications from any location.

"Members of both Houses of Oireachtas and staff at the Office of the Houses of the Oireachtas will now be able to enjoy even further improvements in working practices, including improved real-time voice and data communications through the use of unified communications tools," said Ron Maher, general manager for NextiraOne Ireland. "The Office of the Houses of the Oireachtas has recognised the business value of IP telephony for further increasing productivity and reducing communications overheads.

"The Alcatel-Lucent solution was designed to meet

the requirements of the Oireachtas for cost-efficiency and technology leadership. Consolidating voice and data into the same network to provide a complete integrated multi-service network, enabling powerful new capabilities while substantially lowering costs over managing separate voice and data networks," added Derek Fitzpatrick - Pre-Sales Manager Alcatel-Lucent Enterprise Business Group Ireland.

"Alcatel-Lucent has achieved considerable success in the Irish marketplace during the last 12 months, and our efforts have now culminated in one of the biggest convergence installations seen so far in the country," said Eamon Connaughton - Sales Manager Alcatel-Lucent Enterprise Business Group Ireland. "Effective communication is absolutely vital to any modern legislature, and the Oireachtas has now equipped itself with a solution that will enable increased internal and external efficiency and productivity for many years to come."

About the Irish National Parliament

The Houses of Oireachtas (Irish Parliament) consists of the President and two Houses: Dáil Éireann (House of Representatives) and Seanad Éireann (the Senate) whose functions and powers derive from the Constitution of Ireland, enacted by the people on July 1st, 1937. The Houses of Oireachtas are situated at Leinster House, Dublin. <http://www.oireachtas.ie>

About NextiraOne

Headquartered in Paris, NextiraOne is a leading provider of integrated enterprise network solutions and services that enable effective, reliable business communications. We work closely with our customers to create innovative solutions that go beyond technology to deliver measurable Business Value. We provide best-in-class technologies from leading partners including Alcatel-Lucent and Genesys. Discover more at: <http://www.nextiraone.com>

*NextiraOne and the NextiraOne logo are registered trademarks of NextiraOne LLC

About Alcatel-Lucent

Alcatel-Lucent (Euronext Paris and NYSE: ALU) provides solutions that enable service providers, enterprises and governments worldwide, to deliver voice, data and video communication services to end-users. As a leader in fixed, mobile and converged broadband networking, IP technologies, applications, and services, Alcatel-Lucent offers the end-to-end solutions that enable compelling communications services for people at home, at work and on the move. With 79,000 employees and operations in more than 130 countries, Alcatel-Lucent is a local partner with global reach. The company has the most experienced global services team in the industry, and one of the largest research, technology and innovation organisations in the telecommunications industry. Alcatel-Lucent achieved proforma combined revenues of Euro 18.6 billion in 2005, and is incorporated in France, with executive offices located in Paris. For more information, visit Alcatel-Lucent on the Internet: <http://www.alcatel-lucent.com>