



Case Study

University in Oklahoma Relies on CBTS to Update IT Infrastructure and Services Across Entire Campus

Client

University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma

University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma (USAO) is a public liberal arts college with just under 1,000 students. Located in Chickasha, Oklahoma, it is the only public college in Oklahoma with a strictly liberal arts-focused curriculum.

Challenge	CBTS solution	Results
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student survey rated the USAO network as below average. • Because of disparate hypervisors, there was no capability to failover critical VMs for DR. • Network bandwidth was unable to meet current demand and had insufficient security. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aruba hardware, AirWave, and ClearPass Policy Manager were combined with CBTS managed services to provide enhanced security capabilities and management. • VMware and VEEAM, with replication to an off-site facility, were implemented on new hardware to stabilize the IT infrastructure and protect from disasters. • NaaS was implemented to improve overall network quality and reduce management requirements for the limited staff. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The USAO campus is now a mobile educational environment and prepared for IoT. • Standardization and automation with disaster recovery resulting in higher availability and less management overhead. • A complete backbone and network refresh was done to support all upgrades resulting in increased bandwidth. • CBTS provided innovative financing and IT consumption solutions to allow for immediate realization of IT goals.

Challenge

After an initial assessment, it was determined that USAO's IT infrastructure was suffering due to lack of ongoing funding. The security structure required updating, hardware failures had impacted the DR plan, and the wireless network had become insufficient for student requirements. The University also was under severe capital constraints since IT had not previously been part of the university strategic plan.

CBTS solution

CBTS was diligent in taking the time to understand USAO's current infrastructure and financial constraints. A comprehensive strategy with a phased approach was developed. Beginning with the most urgent items first, CBTS implemented HPE servers and storage along with VMware and VEEAM to stabilize the IT environment and protect the university's critical data. CBTS consulted with USAO and their contractor on their fiber ring design. CBTS subsequently began the installation and configuration of a university-wide network upgrade. The upgrade included complete rewiring of the campus, Aruba switches and controllers, Airwave, ClearPass, and new APs, all managed and supported with managed services.

Results

CBTS became a trusted advisor and assisted in redesigning USAO's IT infrastructure. Understanding their financial and staffing constraints, CBTS was able to leverage consumption-based models to avoid capital expenses, and consolidated management to decrease hours spent managing disparate systems. An As-a-Service model was very attractive to USAO and fit their financial requirements. The new network is an enabling platform for the university, allowing enhanced user experience and smart campus solutions, all while reducing overall operational expenses.

This case study is the perfect example of a cross-selling solution, enabling the University to reinvigorate confidence from the students, staff, and IT support teams.