



CHALLENGE

- Develop state-of-the-art library facility to entice new populations
- Bridge digital divide and provide great experience for library visitors
- Use advanced technologies to deliver rich portfolio of services

SOLUTION

- Deployed end-to-end Cisco network-based technology
- Created interactive technology applications for end users
- Helped ensure security through video surveillance cameras and door access technology

RESULTS

- Served the community with a great library destination
- Leveraged Cisco network as platform to provide end-to-end services
- Reduced incremental costs by approximately 50 percent by implementing a single network for all applications



New Texas Library Expands Offerings Through Interactive Technology

Midland County, Texas is halfway between Fort Worth and El Paso on the Texas and Pacific Railway. Midland County was founded in 1885 and is 902 square miles. The largest business in Midland is oil; the County has the lowest unemployment rate in the state at just 3.2 percent.

When the County decided to upgrade and relocate one of its three public libraries, the goal was to change what people perceive happens at a public library. Specifically, the County wanted to change what people think of when they think of public library services.

According to John Trischitti III, the director of the Midland County Library System, "Right now, people use the library until they graduate from high school, and then they do not come back until after they have children." Trischitti thought that by expanding service offerings, he could attract people who normally do not use the library.

One of the challenges that led the County to build a new library was accessibility and parking. Additionally, the building's age limited its ability to improve the wiring, and with Trischitti's new plans for a museum-quality exhibit space, the library would need to be much larger.



A new library has to be stimulating, entertaining, and offer adventure to be successful. This can be accomplished by the marriage of tradition and technology.”

— Mike Bradford,
Midland County Judge

Solution

Midland County has long relied on Cisco technology, so when it was looking to build its new library information technology (IT) infrastructure, it turned to its long-trusted partner. The County IT team worked with Cisco to develop the network foundation, data center technology, communications solutions, interactive applications, and video technology for the library as well as Sigma Solutions for implementation.

Midland County Library is a cross-architecture IT operation. The Cisco public sector cross-architecture solutions enable government leaders to deliver a superior experience to end-users across a distributed, mobile, and collaborative IT infrastructure made possible by a network designed with trust, visibility, and resilience.

“One of the key goals for the IT infrastructure was for it to have extremely high bandwidth to handle all of the library goers using the Internet and the Web-based applications,” says Jason Bates, Midland County. Additionally, it needed a scalable and easily maintained foundation so that the IT team can manage it without increasing the number of personnel. The County also looked to Cisco because of its known reliability and dependability.

The Midland County Library is using Cisco routers and switches to run its network as well as Cisco wireless LAN technology. Additionally, the Library is using Cisco voice over IP (VoIP) technology, Unified Communications Manager, Cisco phones, Unity® Connection, Emergency Responder 9.0, surveillance cameras, VSMS for video storage, Video Surveillance Operations Manager, Cisco

Physical Access Manager, Cisco Digital Signage, and Unified Computing System™.

In partnership with Cisco and Midland Library, Sigma Solutions helped deploy this technology to translate the county’s vision into reality. Sigma Solutions aligns IT operations and management functions with organizational objectives. It delivers IT transformation by designing, implementing, and supporting data center solutions for companies, organizations, and projects across all industries.

Since the Midland County Library team was familiar with Cisco switching and routing, Sigma Solutions offered its assistance in more complex projects such as Voice deployment and digital signage. Through presentations and remote access to the voice system, Sigma Solutions provided services support in this partnership. After visiting the Midland Library, Ed Loveless, Account Executive, Sigma Solutions said he was so “happy to see how their vision came together to create this amazing library for the public.”

Results

The goal of the Midland County Library is to serve the community with a destination library that is a hub of community services. This library of the future is poised to become the premier library in Texas. With its innovative and unique architectural features, including life-size trees and interactive digital walls, the library is attracting new populations and includes new and enhanced services for its traditional library patrons. To accomplish the library’s goals, Trischitti is using state-of-the-art interactive new technology to expand the library’s services. These services will include:



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- Routers and switches
- Cisco Unified Computing System
- Cisco Physical Access Manager
- Cisco Video Surveillance Operations Manager & Media Server
- Digital signage monitors & media player
- Cisco Unified Communications Manager & IP phones
- Cisco Unity Connection 9.0
- Cisco Emergency Responder 9.0
- Cisco CleanAir wireless access points
- Cisco 2504 Wireless LAN Controller
- Wireless and voice implementation services

- Senior and adult programming
- Assistance with tax filing and social security paperwork
- Museum-quality exhibits
- Children's programming
- Computer literacy classes on how to use new technology such as tablets
- DVD rentals
- Genealogy records
- Meeting spaces
- Media center
- Interactive games

By expanding the library's programming and offerings, the County hopes that the library becomes a hub for the local community to collaborate, learn, and share together. Since the opening of the new library, more than 1800 people have visited the library daily.

"A new library has to be stimulating, entertaining, and offer adventure to be successful. This can be accomplished by the marriage of tradition and technology," added Midland County Judge Mike Bradford.

It's all about service for Midland County. By serving the community with new and innovate programs in an attractive, welcoming place, the Midland County Library is on track to be a flagship library of the future.

For More Information

To find out more about the Cisco cross architecture solutions, go to: <http://www.cisco.com/go/solutions>. To learn more about Sigma Solutions visit <http://www.sigmasol.com>.