

## **ASL collaborates with H3C**

### **Providing 10G Intelligent Resilient Network for Stewards Pooi Kei College Meeting new trends of educational development**

Regarding IT applications, Stewards Pooi Kei College (SPKC) considers in three aspects: the past, at present and in future. Firstly, investment in IT is not for the sake of keeping up with trends in order to avoid speedy obsolescence and wastage of hardware. Secondly, meeting the needs of education, compatibility of school facilities with those used by students at home, and not lagging behind should be considered. Lastly, future trends in educational development that lies many years ahead should be considered too. Based on the three requirements, SPKC decided to entrust ASL and has adopted H3C 10G S7506E core switch. In the end of 2009, SPKC installed the 10G high-speed network, designed with a reliable Intelligent Resilient Framework, enhancing the network performance of the entire campus.

#### **Network and education**

Founded in 2004, SPKC started its Secondary 1 admission and till 2010 completed its Secondary 1-7 admission. It has around 1,080 students, 100 teachers and equipped with more than 300 sets of computers. With its network at full capacity, SPKC decided to upgrade its network to advanced 10G network in 2010.

Mr. Peter Yuen, the Principal of SPKC, says that as an outstanding DSS school, SPKC aims at developing tomorrow's leaders with character and intelligence to contribute to society. "IT can be used as a tool to enhance students' self motivation to learn, and as a medium connecting to different areas of knowledge in the world."

Mr. Tsui, SPKC's IT teacher, says that teachers at school used to store short videos into server and download them for teaching during classes. In the past, due to the limitation of network, video download took time. Student's studying interest plunges during download.

Mr. Tsui noticed that upon the upgrade to 10G, retrieval of teaching materials becomes speedy. The process is much smoother for teachers to do real-time demonstration and edit 3D module. In future, it is expected that the school can add more interesting content to broaden horizon of students.

#### **10G network upgrades campus TV**

In 2010, SPKC established their own campus television programme with the support of Quality Education Fund (QEF). In the beginning, it is applied on Chinese, English and Mandarin

studies. In future, it is expected to apply on liberal studies, visual arts and other courses. The campus TV also benefits distance learning programme, as well as the interactions with overseas schools.

Mr. Szeto, SPKC's IT Officer, says school operation relied more and more on IntraWeb and Internet, leading to more requirements on network broadband. In this case, maintaining a stable network is the most important. Even at school's holidays, office work still relies much on network. A reliable and high quality network will benefit school's daily operations.

### **H3C Intelligent Resilient Framework 2 technology**

As there is no Intelligent Resilient Framework technology in the old 1GE network of SPKC, the whole system will be encumbered if one switch is having any incident. Though the administrative work at school would not be affected, the IT division of school needs to spend a lot of efforts in repairing and maintenance work.

SPKC had used ASL's services and H3C's products before and known about the two companies. Both ASL and H3C has long years of experience in providing IT solutions & services to education sector and well understood the needs of schools. In addition, H3C's Core Switch and Edge Switch are equipped with Intelligent Resilient Framework 2 (IRF2) technology that can maintain the stability of the network. At the backdrop of the above scenarios, SPKC entrusted ASL and H3C in its project. Mr. Szeto says, "The 10G network has been operating for more than 2 years, the H3C Core Switch has no serious downtime so far and it's far more stable before the upgrade."

### **Two IT leaders work together to create the ideal solution**

Automated Systems (HK) Limited was founded in Hong Kong in 1973 and was listed on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited under the name of Automated Systems Holdings Limited ("The ASL Group" ) (Stock Code: 771) in 1997. The ASL Group has over 1,600 employees and is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Beijing Teamsun Technology Co., Ltd. ("Teamsun")(Shanghai Stock Exchange Stock Code: 600410), a leading IT services provider in mainland China. The ASL Group's business mainly covers Asia Pacific.

ASL has more than 38 years experience in providing IT solutions for the secondary and primary schools in Hong Kong, therefore, ASL knows clearly the academic needs.

H3C is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Hewlett-Packard Company and is dedicated to the research, development, production, sales and services in IP-based products and solutions.

H3C has a good relationship with schools in education sector. It understands schools rely much on pre-sales and post-sales of services provider due to the limitation of manpower resources. H3C collaborates with the Hong Kong academia on many occasions by providing user-friendly iMC network control platform (refers to “Looking ahead with a mission”).

As one of the major IT systems integrators in Hong Kong, ASL joined forces with H3C to provide advanced networking solutions to SPKC, allowing it to leverage 10G network for higher quality education.

### **Future development**

Mr. Yuen, the Principal, says “ASL worked closely with the School's IT support Division to run the deployment project of replacing old network with the new 10G network smoothly. Daily operation of school is not affected and the network is stable and smooth. The network performance not only meets the school's expectation, it enhances our creative capability tremendously.

With the popularity of tablet PCs and smart phones, mobile application develops quickly. Officer Tsui said, some teachers have been examining the application of mobile technology in teaching and the method of maximizing the effectiveness of the integration of mobile learning with 10G network in the future. Both of them will be the big topics for school.

### **Looking ahead with a mission**

H3C Sales Manager, Mr. Ng says, apart from using H3C 10G network, SPKC also applied H3C's intelligence management center (iMC network control platform) to centralize the management of all network equipments in the campus, enhancing efficiency and allowing school's IT Support Division to meet the computing needs of all teachers and students.

In addition, the school makes the best use of S7506E design by adding wireless network card for the switch, expanding the 10G network and integrating the functions of wireless network. The school campus is covered by wireless, which can be used more flexibly and supports mobile teaching.

Mr. Benjamin Lai, ASL Sales Manager, agreed that SPKC has a vision for its IT applications. For example, many other clients only concerned about budget of network and hardware while SPKC takes one step further to consider how to effectively use and manage the network. In this case, SPKC understands the strength of iMC, can forecast the future development of mobile teaching and has been fully utilizing the network.

In general, the existing 10G network solution can meet SPKC's need for the next 5 to 10 years and sets up a solid foundation for a sustainable growth.



*SPKC adopted high quality equipment to develop Campus TV with 10G network creates the greatest results. It received a good response from teachers, students and parents*



*A good network facility can help SPKC set up a learning center and computer technology center while boosting the self-learning motivation of students*



*H3C and ASL cooperate with SPKC and build a reliable, user-friendly and speedy 10G network which served as a foundation for the school's development in 5 to 10 years (From left to right: Mr. Calvin Ng, Sales Manager of H3C; Mr. Peter Yuen, Principal of Stewards Pooi Kei College and Mr. Benjamin Lai, Sales Manager of ASL)*