

Rotterdam University highly satisfied with Colt services



Client

Rotterdam University

Sector

Government

Business

Higher education

Challenge

To empathise flexibly and rapidly with the complexity of the organisation

Size

Medium-sized business market

Services used

- Fibre-optic network,
- VoIP
- Fixed telephony

With its 28,000 students, some 2,800 teaching and support staff, the University of Rotterdam is one of the largest universities in the Netherlands.

The university consists of 11 institutes, provides 110 courses and has nine in-house departments, spread in total across nine buildings. All these buildings and people need to be in contact with the main building in Rotterdam's Museumpark. The one gigabit links between these buildings are carried over Colt's fibre-optic network in Rotterdam, known as the Colt backbone. The University expects that another new location will need to be added in the future.

The university has 500 printers and over 5,300 workstations where everyone involved with the University has access to the same information and programs. It is no mean feat, not least because the courses are highly varied: Art, Media & Design, Architecture, Economics, Behaviour and Society, Healthcare, Information Technology, Laboratory, Education, Service Management and Engineering. This requires around 1,000 different educational training packages, for which Colt has implemented the requisite infrastructure in previous years.

Colt also supplies fixed telephony (ISDN packages) and the University has signed a 2+2-year contract for this with Colt. VoIP was added last year at four locations (around 250 sets with one-year contracts). Colt supplies VoIP as a managed service with the PABX physically located at Colt.

Colt - a sound partner

Ad de Graaf, ICT Manager – Administration & Operation, explains why the university has opted consistently for Colt. "Colt has demonstrated a high degree of professionalism in the field of fibre-optic networks. We had a network up and running properly within a few weeks, it happened at a blistering pace at the time. Now we are also having a positive experience with Colt in the field of VoIP." De Graaf adds that Colt moves fast and offers excellent value for money. "We are highly satisfied and are finding Colt to be a sound partner."





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Ad de Graaf,
ICT Manager – Administration & Operation

Network availability relevant to the community

The University of Rotterdam works jointly with the Erasmus Hospital on GRID computing. This means that the residual capacity (CPU) on the network is used by the Erasmus Hospital to analyse brain scans. Accordingly all workstations linked together through the Colt network (University of Rotterdam locations) are used for this purpose. Blocks of computation are carried out from a central location and collected at the EMC. Calculations are guaranteed thanks to the reliable links. The speed and capacity of the Colt network contributes towards enabling these scans to be analysed much faster than was previously the case and patients need no longer wait for days or even weeks for the outcomes which mean so much to them.

De Graaf explains: “Network availability is therefore of major importance. The reliability of the network can be literally a matter of life and death and it is precisely in this that Colt plays a major part.”

The University is now considering the future and its wishes in the area of data storage. Ad de Graaf concludes: “We value our partnership with Colt on account of their flexibility, which is combined with competitive pricing and resolving issues smoothly. Perhaps most importantly: although Colt is a pan-European business, local account managers do actually have decision-making authority.”

Next step

To arrange a consultation or to discuss how Colt can help you:
Visit: www.colt.net



Ad de Graaf, ICT Manager – Administration & Operation