ELECTRIC LIGHTWAVE™

CASE STUDY
+ EDUCATION

BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY

+ **CUSTOMER PROFILE**
  A public research institution with more than 22,000 students located in Boise, Idaho.
+ **BUSINESS OBJECTIVES**
  Finding a flexible Internet solution to increase bandwidth for students, researchers and faculty, and support the institution's future needs.
+ **SOLUTION**
  Dedicated Internet Services
+ **BUSINESS OUTCOME**
  Increased Internet bandwidth capacity provides faster access, more reliable data transmission, improved network performance, and flexibility.

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Brian McDevitt
Assistant Director of Technology Operations, Boise State University

UNIVERSITY GROWS CONFIDENTLY WITH FLEXIBLE INTERNET SERVICE

Business Challenge

Boise State University is a public research institution serving a student body of more than 22,000 individuals with 200 unique degrees in 190 fields of study. As the state's premiere institution and Idaho's largest provider of higher education, Boise State demands reliable network services that are able to scale with the growing bandwidth requirements of students, faculty and researchers.

Brian McDevitt, Assistant Director of Technology Operations, is responsible for overseeing the reliable delivery of network services for the entire campus. McDevitt and his team constantly monitor network usage to ensure that researchers have secure, high bandwidth connections to other universities worldwide and students have dependable, fast Internet connections to help them with their coursework.

Approach

Understanding students and faculty cannot tolerate slow or unreliable Internet connections, McDevitt sought a flexible solution for their high-bandwidth Internet service. When a contract with an existing provider was set to expire, he found an opportunity to leverage a State of Idaho contract with Electric Lightwave and quickly began to develop a plan for Internet services with the Electric Lightwave team. The plan included a configuration featuring a 10 Gb hand off with a 1 Gb circuit. "Electric Lightwave made it easy to accommodate our needs within the parameters of the state contract," said McDevitt.

Purchasing from the state price list streamlined negotiations and saved time, allowing McDevitt and the Electric Lightwave team to focus on designing the new configuration with the right equipment to meet Boise State's evolving bandwidth demands. McDevitt stated, "We knew ahead of time that Electric Lightwave and their solution would be able to grow with us."

Results

Boise State promptly realized network performance improvements upon transition to the Electric Lightwave service. The Electric Lightwave Internet backbone offers numerous exchange points across a broad footprint, providing Boise State with direct low latency links to many of the largest Internet content providers. "We immediately noticed the number of network peering points had doubled with Electric Lightwave," said McDevitt.

With twice as many peering points as their previous provider, university data transmits faster and routes more efficiently. This geographic diversity means the university's mission-critical data never leaves the safety of Electric Lightwave's network. The Boise State Technology Operations team receives peace of mind knowing sensitive data moves at faster speeds and with increased security between Boise State and institutions across the globe. "Electric Lightwave was a good fit to meet our Internet access requirements," stated McDevitt.

Electric Lightwave's Internet service empowers a wider range of digital learning tools and enhances the educational experience for Boise State students. The university is better able to support high definition video conferencing, online course curriculum, and Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) initiatives. Students connect faster to online sources and researchers are enabled with more efficient access and exchange of bandwidth-intensive files. Besides serving the students on campus, Electric Lightwave supports Boise State's connection to the National Guard base at the Boise (BOI) airport where online courses are delivered reliably to National Guard members.

As students and faculty continue to rely on the Internet to do more, bandwidth requirements are projected to increase at colleges and universities across the nation. Boise State University now has a future proof solution and the flexibility to add bandwidth as demands require by partnering with Electric Lightwave. With capacity up to 10 Gb on the Electric Lightwave network, McDevitt can confidently plan for hassle-free long-term growth. "We got the services we wanted within our budget with capacity for the future," said McDevitt.

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CUSTOMER BENEFITS

- Increased bandwidth capacity future proofs network services and assures seamless expansion
- Doubled the number of peering points enables faster and more reliable data transmission for researchers and students
- Higher performing network empowers a wider range of digital learning tools including BYOD, high definition video conferencing, and online curriculum
- Faster Internet speed supports more efficient research and collaboration for students and faculty

ABOUT ELECTRIC LIGHTWAVE™

Electric Lightwave™, an Integra company, serves as a trusted network infrastructure partner to enterprises, government agencies and carriers in select markets throughout the western United States. We combine dense metro and intercity fiber assets, enterprise-grade network solutions, including Ethernet, Wavelengths and IP, with a highly responsive and easy to do business with approach. Electric Lightwave offers a premium service experience to match our premium network infrastructure solutions.

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