

Diageo Liberties Learning Initiative @ The Digital Hub

About Diageo Liberties Learning Initiative

The Diageo Liberties Learning Initiative is the vehicle through which The Digital Hub delivers its education programme, including a range of learning and ICT showcasing projects in local primary and second-level schools.

<http://www.thedigitalhub.com/learning/default.asp>

Need

16 local schools needed to be connected to a high-speed network to support online learning, as part of state-of-the-art digital education initiatives to local schools and the wider community.

Solution

SONAS Innovation provided the following solutions:

- A high speed 2.5 Gbps Internet trunk was put in place using the fibre Metropolitan Area Network.
- 34 Mbps point to multi-point wireless technology was used to deliver high-speed access from a transmitter on top of Guinness Storehouse to receivers positioned on the roof of each school with speeds up to ten times faster than standard DSL connections.
- powerline technology within each school which use the electricity sockets in the school building to pipe the Internet directly into individual classrooms.

Outcome

This project marked the first commercial deployment of powerline broadband technology in Ireland. The broadband network acts as a platform to enable schools to communicate and collaborate more effectively, facilitating teachers and students to share resources online.

In each of the 16 schools, students can connect to the Internet at 4Mbps. A platform has been established for delivery of a range of technology and support services such as equipment, technical support and advice. The Diageo Liberties Learning Initiative has thus provided a test bed for innovative community learning projects and established a model for other such projects.