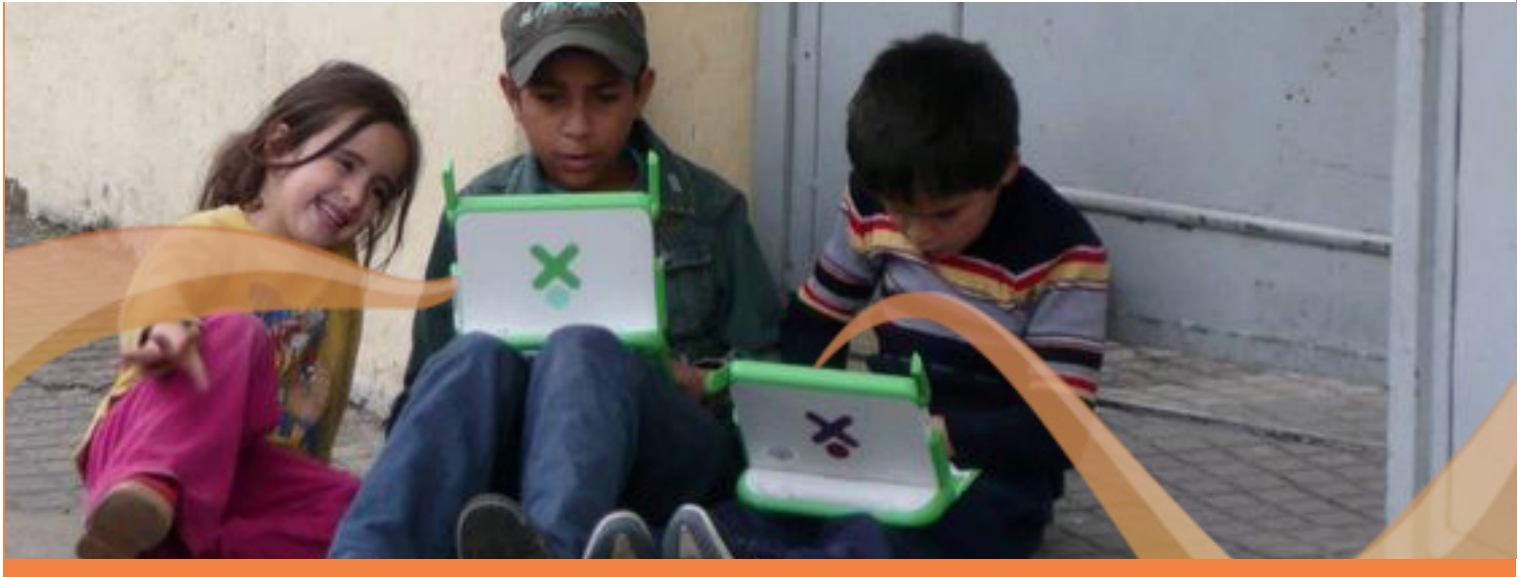


Customer type: Government
Country/Region: Uruguay
Application: Internet to schools and communities



Highlights

The customer

Technological Laboratories of Uruguay (LATU).

The challenge

Providing Wi-Fi coverage to 2,100 schools and surrounding communities throughout Uruguay in order to provide access to elementary school students on their OLPC computer.

The solution

Wavion WBS-2400 base stations, which provide:

- Extended range
- Superior indoor penetration
- high quality connections

The result

Nationwide Wi-Fi coverage of elementary schools and their surrounding communities. It is the first nationwide OLPC deployment in the world.

The customer

Technological Laboratories of Uruguay (LATU) is the organization leading the One Laptop Per Child (OLPC) program in Uruguay.

It has been assigned to this task by the president of Uruguay, and it is done via the CEIBAL Project, which stands for Basic Connectivity for Education.



The challenge

LATU has undertaken the immense task of giving 450,000 lap tops to every elementary school student in Uruguay and providing internet coverage to all 2,100 schools and surrounding communities.

"We applaud LATU for their pioneering project in Uruguay," said OLPC visionary and founder Nicholas Negroponte.

"This is the first OLPC nationwide deployment project in the world where internet connectivity is provided both at schools and at the pupils' towns and homes, thus significantly enhancing the learning experience by extending the learning process beyond the school hours and enabling the children to share their experience with their families and friends."



Wavion selected by the Uruguayan government to provide broadband access to laptops in 2,100 schools and communities. The prestigious Plan Ceibal project, awarded with a national stamp.

The solution

Wavion's powerful beamforming technology allows the WBS-2400 base stations to provide extended range and indoor penetration while minimizing dead spots.

With Wavion's solution, LATU requires about one third fewer units than other competing access points (APs) to cover the same area.

In addition, Wavion's technology significantly improves the link quality when operating with 802.11 standards-based Wi-Fi clients - such as those found in OLPC's XO laptops.

Students have reported getting Wi-Fi connectivity at their homes as far as 2Km from their school.

Why Wavion

"After lengthy comparative testing and careful selection process, we have chosen Wavion as one of the main technologies to deliver wireless Internet access in the CEIBAL project", said Miguel Brechner, President of LATU.

"Thanks to the CEIBAL project and to Wavion's Wi-Fi technology, we're able to bring the benefits of wireless broadband access to remote communities in Uruguay and provide internet connectivity to the children in these communities both at their schools and their homes."

Future Expansion

The project is being executed in several stages over the next 3 years. Wavion's is the vendor of choice for the projects' outdoor Wi-Fi service.

The project is continually expanding and deploying additional Wavion base stations on a monthly basis. It is expected to reach over 1,000 Wi-Fi base stations upon completion. In addition, the Uruguay project serves as a role model for additional countries that are looking to adopt the OLPC model in their own communities.

