



Founded in 1912, Saint Mary's is a multifaceted private, Catholic university sponsored by the De La Salle Christian Brothers. The university has a liberal arts college located in Winona, Minn. and a graduate campus in Minneapolis. Courses for adult learners are also delivered at several satellite centers, locations throughout Minnesota and Wisconsin, Jamaica, and online. Saint Mary's enrolls close to 5,900 students: 1,200 in the undergraduate college, and more than 4,700 in the Schools of Graduate and Professional Programs. The expansive Winona campus consists of 48 buildings spanning 400 acres.



## The Challenge

The university was running multiple vendor phone systems across several campuses. The main Winona campus had an existing phone system first put into production in June 1987 and upgraded in 2004. Several third party organizations such as the Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary and the Christian Brothers Community were also relying on the phone service. Saint Mary's needed to transition from a legacy PBX to a modern unified communications system to support their needs. Top priorities were to improve communications, support location based E911 services and enhance the capabilities available to the university. The right solution would be capable of leveraging the existing IT infrastructure, be open standards-based, provide seamless intra and inter-campus dialing and be highly cost effective.

## The Solution

eZuce Uniteme, a software-defined communications (SDC) platform, was designed to run within the University's VMware environment using standards-based SIP and XMPP protocols. Uniteme's flexible design provided a variety of implementation and operational options to better meet their requirements. By implementing a virtual cluster spanning the Winona and Minneapolis data centers, Uniteme provided high availability performance and scalability beyond any competitive solution at the lowest acquisition and operating costs. Emergency services associated with the Jeanne Clery Act and Saint Mary's University Twin Cities Annual Security Report were enhanced through the integration of the Uniteme unified communications system and the Conveyant Sentry E911 solution.

## The Benefits

- Implementation and operational flexibility lowers CAPEX and OPEX
- Standards-based design enables the use of OTS system components
- Supports virtualization and existing IT infrastructure
- Runs with existing data centers on compliant platforms
- Integrated with existing legacy voice systems enables graceful and coordinated migration
- Location based E911 services

“eZuce Uniteme met the requirements of the university better than any of the alternative solutions we reviewed. The fact that eZuce is an active participant in the sipXcom and SIPFoundry open source projects gave us the confidence in their commitment to open standards and better economics than proprietary based systems.”

Francis Speck, Director of Information Technologies