# TP-LINK Helps Calasanz School Provide Wireless Coverage in Colombia

## CUSTOMER PROFILE



Name: Calasanz School

Location: Colombia

Schools: Preschool, Primary School, High School

Students: 1290+

## BACKGROUND

Located in Cucuta, Norte de Santander, the Calasanz school campus sits on approximately three acres of land and serves over 1290+ students from kindergarten to high school with a staff of 83 teachers. With students needing Internet access for their education, the school needed to build a wireless network to give students more opportunities to access information online. This historic school also wants to prepare for the future of digital education, which allows E-learning through digital textbooks and online homework and libraries. A powerful wireless network would also allow teachers and students to use their devices at school.

"Nowadays, no one can live without the Internet. So this is very urgent for the school to build a wireless network" said Carlos, a student at Calasanz. "Not only for students, but also for a more efficient learning environment."

## CHALLENGE

Calasanz needed a comprehensive, technologically advanced wireless solution that was cost effective and allowed for network monitoring. The solution had to be easy to deploy and manage due to limited staff. The wireless signals needed to cover the two main buildings of the primary school and high school with 33 classrooms in total. Moreover, the staff and students each needed separate log-in credentials, to allow them different levels of Internet access.

## SOLUTION

One TL-SF1048 covers the needs of the 18 classrooms in the high school building, and a second TL-SF1048 covers the needs of the 15 classrooms in the primary school building. In addition, each classroom is equipped with an EAP120. The distributed network architecture with its simplified centralized management and control-enabled IT team make it easier for modifications and upgrades in the future.

"With the excellent wireless network covering the whole campus, students are engaged in learning and we could also benefit from the network which improves the students' enthusiasm of learning," said Alexandra, a teacher at the primary school.

### • Satisfied High Performance

The entire school, including students, teachers, and staff, enjoy stable and reliable wireless connections. A high-quality Qualcomm Atheros 560MHz chipset ensures a strong wireless signal both inside and outside the classrooms.

"TP-LINK's network is fast and strong. The entire network supports more than 1,000 users, so both the students and teachers are satisfied," said Fabián, an IT staff member.

### • Captive Portal for Students

The customized captive portal provides a convenient method of authentication for students, which means they can use their own school IDs and passwords to access the Internet. This action is verified by an external portal server.



### • Secure, Personalized Access for Teacher and Staffs

Multiple SSIDs and VLAN function help personalize the network experience for teachers, staff, and students, by enforcing specialized access policies that protect all private and sensitive data. An access list of all the devices from the teachers and staff

in a radius server is used to control their requests in order to create a secure network.

### • Easy Centralized Management

TP-LINK's free EAP Controller Software allows the network administrators to easily manage the whole school network with centralized configuration options and real-time monitoring capabilities. Moreover, no special training or maintenance is required to manage the network with this platform.

"The EAP Controller is very simple and easy to use. I can manage all the devices and block unauthorized users, or even detect abnormal behaviors," said Juan, a network administrator.
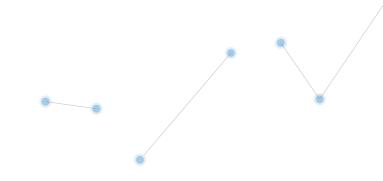
### • Rapid Deployment

The easy-mount design allows the EAP to be easily and seamlessly affixed to any wall or ceiling. The incorporation of Power over Ethernet (PoE) support makes deployment effortless and flexible. The rapid deployment saved the school a great deal of time without interrupting the teaching schedule.

## • BENEFITS FOR CUSTOMERS

Since deployment, the EAPs have performed well without any issues. The strong and stable Wi-Fi coverage throughout the school maximized education in many ways. Students who focus on the arts can view exhibits and performances from anywhere in the world. Students interested in business can easily follow stock exchanges in real

time. Teachers can more easily find educational resources at anytime while in school. Even with the use of many different types of wireless devices, including laptops, smartphones, and iPads, user experiences are the same and connectivity issues have not been a problem.



"The institution is very pleased with the solution," said Sandra, board member of Calasanz School, "I cannot speak highly enough of the TP-LINK team and the solution, as they continue to meet all of our needs and exceed our expectations."