SAIT Polytechnic
Case Study

About SAIT Polytechnic

As one of Canada’s leading polytechnics – an innovative and entrepreneurial post-secondary institution, distinct from universities and colleges in that it offers a skills-focused approach to learning – SAIT Polytechnic offers relevant education and training for more than 66,000 local and international students each year.

The institution’s main campus consists of thirteen buildings in four major complexes on approximately 92 acres. Its programs include customized training solutions and more than 2,300 career-oriented personal development courses to provide students with the required knowledge and skills for a rewarding career.

Educational excellence is an ongoing priority for SAIT, which is passionate about helping organizations further their commitment by establishing research partnerships, preparing SAIT graduates for work readiness, and delivering competency-based education, training, and workplace development solutions.

Sustainability

With a commitment to environmental sustainability, Panduit develops and implements solutions that protect, repurpose, and sustain the world in which we live. This commitment is demonstrated by Panduit’s LEED Gold certified World Headquarters, leveraging the Unified Physical Infrastructure® approach to enable convergence of critical building systems to drive energy efficiency and ensure operational improvement.

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Strategic Objectives

The main objective for SAIT was to construct a new building “to help students achieve their personal goals and graduate so they can meet the workforce needs of our country.” A new facility would allow it to build an exciting learning culture that attracts new students and delivers a more enriched experience to the students. SAIT also wanted to ensure the new structure would be operationally efficient with a reduced environmental impact. To achieve its goal of LEED certification, SAIT deployed a centralized building management system to reduce its energy consumption.

In addition, SAIT wanted an attractive location on the local and national levels for students to experience its programs of study. It also wanted the actual components of the building to be a part of the learning experience for students while having the resilience to ensure greater end-to-end network security, agility, and availability.

Real-World Solutions

With a proven reputation for excellence and innovation, Panduit and our partners work with you to overcome challenges and implement real-world solutions that create a competitive business advantage. Panduit offers the broader range of solutions, from data centers and intelligent buildings to manufacturing operations, to help you build a smarter, unified business foundation.

Technology Leadership

Panduit develops innovative physical infrastructure solutions that meet the rapidly changing needs of our clients, from hardware and software to advisory services. This commitment is supported by investment in advanced research, solutions-focused product development, world-class manufacturing, and collaboration with customers at the forefront of technology.

Partner Ecosystem

Our best-in-class partner ecosystem offers a comprehensive portfolio of services that span the project lifecycle, from planning and design to delivery, deployment, maintenance, and operation. Panduit business partners – distributors, and certified architects, engineers, designers, system integrators, and contractors – are qualified to help you achieve your objectives and realize predictable and measurable results.

Global Business Commitment

Panduit is committed to delivering a consistently high level of quality and service worldwide. With a presence in more than 100 countries, local Panduit sales representatives and technical specialists offer guidance and support that bring value to your business. Our global supply chain, which includes manufacturing, customer service, logistics, and distribution partners, provides prompt responses to your inquiries and delivers products anywhere in the world.

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Business Challenges
SAIT Polytechnic is concerned about the economic health of Canada, which is threatened by a severe shortage of highly skilled young people to replace the generation of retiring baby boomer in a variety of trades and technology careers primarily energy, construction, and manufacturing.

To address the pending shortage of skilled workers, SAIT decided to build a state-of-the-art learning environment that would support its mission of "being an innovative organization engaging people to complete successfully in the changing world of work by providing relevant, skills-oriented education.”

The new building needed to contain a flexible network infrastructure to support a robust learning culture with a sharpened focus on student education and outcomes.

"We needed to future-proof our physical infrastructure as much as possible in a manner that would allow us to upgrade our bandwidth requirements as we can accommodate changes in our network infrastructure as these technologies advance,” said Peter Kehler, CIO, Information Systems, SAIT Polytechnic.

Funding the project was another major challenge for the institution because it could not afford to go over budget. In addition, the project needed to be completed within a 12 month timeframe to meet the anticipated start date for the fall semester.

Panduit® PatchRunner™ Vertical Cable Management System with angular patch panels and racks was deployed in all of the 30 network rooms to maximize density while minimizing floor space. Approximately 6000 network connections were implemented to provide a state-of-the-art education facility for SAIT students today and in the future,” said Kehler.

Preparing for the Future – Today

The Panduit Unified Physical Infrastructure® approach helps SAIT meet today’s learning requirements and accommodate tomorrow’s innovations

Business Solutions
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Global Business Commitment
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Sustainability
With a commitment to environmental sustainability, Panduit develops and implements solutions that protect, operate, and restore the world in which we live. This commitment is reinforced by Panduit’s LEED-certified World Headquarters, leveraging the Unified Physical InfrastructureSM approach to enable convergence of critical building systems to drive energy efficiency and ongoing operational improvement.

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"We needed to future-proof our physical infrastructure as much as possible in a manner that would allow us to upgrade our bandwidth requirements and accommodate changes in our network infrastructure as these technologies advance," said Peter Kehler, CIO, Information Systems, SAT Polytechnic.

Business Benefits

A well-planned, scalable infrastructure that provides systems reliability and controls SAT's business operations while reducing the overall cost of ownership can create a competitive advantage for students.

"Panduit has the proven ability to deliver an end-to-end unified solution with innovative designs that offer superior cable management, and effective network integrity within the entire facility..." Peter Kehler, CIO, Information Systems, SAT Polytechnic.

"Panduit has the proven ability to deliver an end-to-end unified solution with innovative designs that offer superior cable management, and effective network integrity within the entire facility." Panduit® PatchRunner™ Vertical Cable Management System with angular patch panels, which participated in a variety of the SI® network racks to maximize density while minimizing floor space. Approximately 8800 network connections were implemented to support network reliability and minimize trouble shooting. The Panduit® Si Flex link plug line device provided an added measure of physical security on all voice connections to prevent accidental disconnection of users and other critical connections.

Panduit also implemented Mini-Crimp Faceplates which snap in and out for easy moves, adds and changes, which significantly enhance the SAT Polytechnic mid-rise education facility. The Panduit Unified Physical Infrastructure™ approach aligns with SAT Polytechnic's mission to deliver an innovative, career-focused education that prepares students for success in the rapidly changing workplace.

Business Benefits

On Sept. 5, 2012, SAT Polytechnic opened the doors to the 745,000 sq. ft. Trades and Technology Complex, which consists of three buildings – the Aldred Centre for the Trades and Technology Complex, the Energy Centre and Johnson-Cobbe Energy Centre. These three wings are home of the Trades and Technology Complex has also been named one of the most innovative and exciting urban infrastructure projects in the world, according to IFPSI's Innovation World Class Edition publication.

"The Complex is the first project to be selected as a finalist in two categories by the Project Management Institute Southern Alberta Chapter – the Engineering and Construction, and Community Advancement categories. The Trades and Technology Complex has also been named one of the most innovative and exciting urban infrastructure projects in the world, according to IFPSI's Innovation World Class Edition publication.

Working diligently with GHD Inc. the architect who designed the project, and Cenair Systems, who performed contractor services, Panduit was able to deliver the $400 million expansion project on time. This expansion is the largest SAT's history, adding capacity for an additional 6,150 students in a flexible and efficient learning space, which includes additional classroom and workshops. The larger facility allows more students to further their skills for skills-based training while furnishing instructors with the resources they need to provide students with the best education possible. To control costs, the project was funded by the Alberta Government and several generous donors.

"SAT now has the experience of deployment and extended network performance for its demanding high bandwidth requirements and IP-savvy facilities while overcoming latest industry standards. As a result, the Trades and Technology Complex is positioned to meet existing and emerging technology needs for the next 50 years to 2060.

The award winning architecture – which achieved LEED Gold Certification for the Aldred Centre and Johnson-Cobbe Energy Centre and Silver Certification for the Energy Centre, features exposed conduits, panels and monitoring equipment to allow students to experience how the components they study function in the real world.

"SAT’s design team focused on innovative, flexible and technology capacity to match the need of the trades and technology complex, which will generate significant benefits to the students for years to come. SAT’s highly skilled graduates have benefited from the building components being part of the learning experience and are prepared to fill the needs of industry and drive economic health and prosperity today and in the future," said Kehler.
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**Business Benefits**

A Panduit unified physical infrastructure that provides systems reliability and continues SAIT’s business operations through effective integration of critical systems – communication, computing, electrical, and automation.

SAIT’s highly skilled graduates have benefited from the building components being part of the learning environment for their students.

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**Panduit Solution**

SAIT has enjoyed a solid working relationship with Panduit for many years, which made it easy for the institution to choose a Panduit solution to fulfill its network infrastructure requirements. The solution supports voice over IP (VoIP), Power over Ethernet (PoE), and wireless systems throughout the facility.

According to Peter Kehler, “Panduit has the proven ability to deliver an end-to-end, unified solution with innovative designs that offer superior cable management, and effective network integrity within the entire facility, including the telecommunications rooms, classrooms, labs, and the library.”

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**Unified Physical Infrastructure® Approach**

The Panduit Unified Physical Infrastructure® (UPI) approach to infrastructure design and development provides effective integration of critical systems – communication, computing, electrical, and automation – that optimizes the use of space, time, and resources to deliver an end-to-end solution. The Panduit Unified Physical Infrastructure® approach gives companies such as SAIT Polytechnic the ability to foster a skills-based learning culture and to maintain network reliability and minimize trouble shooting. The Panduit RJ45 plug-to-lock system provides an added measure of physical security on all voice connections to prevent accidental disconnection of users and other critical connections.

Panduit also implemented MiniCom® Faceplates which snap in and out for easy moves, adds and changes, a key requirement for SAIT. In addition, the post telecommunications rack with high performance copper cables creates a reliable foundation for routing SAIT’s telecommunications and data center equipment.

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About SAIT Polytechnic
As one of Canada’s leading polytechnics – an innovative and entrepreneurial post-secondary institution, distinct from universities and colleges in that it offers a skills-focused approach to learning – SAIT Polytechnic offers relevant education and training for more than 66,000 local and international students each year.

The institution’s main campus consists of thirteen buildings in four major complexes on approximately 92 acres. Its programs include customized training solutions and more than 2,300 career-oriented personal development courses to provide students with the required knowledge and skills for a rewarding career.

Educational excellence is an ongoing priority for SAIT, which is passionate about helping organizations further their commitment by establishing research partnerships, preparing SAIT graduates for work readiness, and delivering competency-based education, training and workplace development solutions.

SAIT Polytechnic Case Study

Strategic Objectives

The main objective for SAIT was to construct a new building “to help students achieve their personal goals and graduate so they can meet the workforce needs of our country.” SAIT also wanted to ensure the new structure would be operationally efficient with a reduced environmental impact. To achieve its goal of LEED certification, SAIT deployed a centralized building management system to reduce its energy consumption.

In addition, SAIT wanted an attractive location on the local and national levels for students to experience its programs of study. It also wanted the actual components of the building to be a part of the learning experience for students while having the resilience to ensure greater end-to-end network security, agility and availability.

Real-World Solutions

With a proven reputation for excellence and innovation, Panduit and its partners work with you to overcome challenges and implement real-world solutions that create a competitive business advantage. Panduit offers the broadest range of solutions, from data centers and intelligent buildings to manufacturing operations, to help you build a smarter, unified business foundation.

Technology Leadership

Panduit develops innovative physical infrastructure solutions that meet the rapidly changing needs of our clients, from hardware and software to advisory services. This commitment is supported by investment in advanced research, solutions-focused product development, world-class manufacturing, and collaboration with customers at the forefront of technology.

Partner Ecosystem

Our best-in-class partner ecosystem offers a comprehensive portfolio of services that range the project lifecycle, from planning and design to delivery, deployment, maintenance, and operation. Panduit business partners – distributors, and contact architects, consultants, engineers, designers, systems integrators, and contractors – are qualified to help us achieve your objectives and realize predictable and measurable results.

Global Business Commitment

Panduit is committed to delivering a consistently high level of quality and service worldwide. With a presence in more than 100 countries, local Panduit sales representatives and technical specialists offer guidance and support that bring value to your business. Our global supply chain, which includes manufacturing, customer service, logistics, and distribution partners, provides prompt responses to your inquiries and delivers parts to anywhere worldwide.

Sustainability

With a commitment to environmental sustainability, Panduit develops and implements solutions that protect, replenish, and restore the world in which we live. This commitment is recognized by Panduit’s LEED Gold certified World Headquarters, leveraging the Unified Physical Infrastructure approach to enable convergence of critical building systems to drive energy efficiency and ensure operational improvement.

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