



*Media Release*

## **D-Link Networked Wireless Solution Places Somerville House at Forefront of 21st Century Learning Techniques**

***800 Student Laptops Gain Seamless Wireless Access to Intranet Throughout Campus, Major Cost Savings to School Through Reduced Maintenance***

**Brisbane, Australia – March 26, 2008** – D-Link, the end-to-end networking solutions provider for business and consumers, today announced that Somerville House, an independent day and boarding school for girls in inner city Brisbane, Queensland has implemented a D-Link networked wireless solution providing 21<sup>st</sup> century learning techniques for its 1200 students.

D-Link won the contract to upgrade Somerville House's existing fixed point standalone wireless solution – based on three year old D-Link equipment – with a D-Link enterprise switch based networked wireless solution. After evaluating competing options, D-Link again proved to be the most cost effective and functional solution available.

D-Link is a major part of the Somerville House IT infrastructure with its wireless products supporting up to 800 student laptops at any one time. D-Link's solution enables the students to access the school's intranet in classrooms and throughout the campus.

"The existing solution had reached the end of its life – after three years we needed a replacement," said Kerry Haenga, Operations Manager for Somerville House. "The old system, which was based around old-style standalone access points, was becoming too expensive and too time consuming to maintain."

Somerville's goal was to find a robust, scalable, enterprise level product providing high availability for all their users that met the projected budget. A project team researched many of the major vendors' products and found that D-link's new enterprise switch met all of its criteria.

"The D-link DWS-3024 switch gives our technical personnel a secure, centralised management point for all our wireless access points (WAPs) with a simple, easy to use Web interface," said Haenga. "Tasks including WAP status, configuration and RF management can now be performed by one person."

Additional DWS-3024 features including 24 Gigabit ports, Layer 3 switching, 802.1X authentication, Power over Ethernet, optional redundant power supplies, and support of up to 48 wireless access points per switch were all attractive to Somerville's project team, said Haenga.

Somerville decided to install 75 D-Link DWL-8500 wireless access points linked to four D-Link DWS-3024 Peered Switches providing wireless coverage for up to 90% of the campus. Utilisation of Power over Ethernet greatly reduced the school's installation costs.

While D-Link's enterprise switch-based technology offered a superior solution, Somerville's immediate concern was to avoid disruption to students and teachers during installation, so the deployment project was planned for the school's December-January holiday period.

D-Link provided technical support to help configure the new equipment and assisted its Queensland business partner BES Information Technology Systems with the installation by providing two engineers on site, ensuring the project was completed on time.

BES Information Technology Systems has been Somerville House's IT solutions supplier for seven years.

"The goal was to have zero support calls," said Dylan Mapp, Account Manager for BES Information Technology Systems. "That was our number priority when we started out with D-Link to implement this solution for Somerville House and that was what we have been able to achieve."

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**About D-Link**

D-Link is the global leader in connectivity for small, medium and large enterprise business networking. The company continues to strive for excellence as an award winning designer, developer, and manufacturer of networking, broadband, digital electronics, voice and data communications solutions for the digital home, Small Office/Home Office (SOHO), Small to Medium Business (SMB), and Workgroup to Enterprise environments. With millions of networking and connectivity products manufactured and shipped, D-Link is a dominant market participant and price/performance leader in the networking and communications market. D-Link Australia and New Zealand headquarters are located at Building A, Level 3, 11 Talavera Road, North Ryde, NSW, 2113, Sydney Australia. Phone (02) 8899 1800; FAX (02) 8899 1868; Internet [www.dlink.com.au](http://www.dlink.com.au); email [marketing@dlink.com.au](mailto:marketing@dlink.com.au).

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