

Mall of Africa future-ready with Wi-Fi network

Open-access Wi-Fi Network, VAST Networks together with Ruckus Wireless successfully deployed the continent's largest mall Wi-Fi installation, providing consumers and retailers with a fast and reliable Wi-Fi experience throughout the Mall of Africa.



Mall of Africa

Wi-Fi on this scale has never been delivered before on the continent, marking yet another “African first” for VAST Networks. The teams installed more than one thousand highly advanced and future-ready access points and the network backbone to deliver a world-class Wi-Fi experience.

VAST Networks CEO, Grant Marais, says: “A deployment of this scale is a massive undertaking by world standards and an African first which we are very proud of. We are ready to go and cannot wait for visitors to enjoy a Wi-Fi experience that will support any requirements, be it surfing, streaming, downloading large files or simply staying connected to their world.”

Maximum coverage

To meet a challenge of this nature, VAST Networks planned the roll-out with its partners, including Ruckus Wireless for more than a year, with technicians working on the site for nearly six months making sure that once the mall opens, users experience the Wi-Fi service they deserve.

Riaan Graham, sales director at Ruckus Wireless sub-Saharan Africa, commented: “The Ruckus Smart Wi-Fi solution deployed at Mall of Africa is a future-ready network that delivers increased device density and wireless monetisation opportunities for retailers. The technology provides maximum signal coverage, throughput and network capacity in a high-density area.”

At more than 130,000 square meters of retail space, the Mall of Africa required a solution that could not only handle the capacity requirements of more than 300 shops and thousands of anticipated daily visitors but also cope with ever growing data demand.

People want to remain connected wherever they are. This is especially true in a retail environment where they want to search for the latest shopping specials and share interesting things they see with family and friends. Retailers are also looking at more innovative ways of promoting products and services to customers and a Wi-Fi network at a mall is the perfect platform to do so.

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