

Linkyfi in education sector



BACKGROUND

We were approached by a South African institution of higher learning with campuses in cities such as Cape Town, Pretoria, or Johannesburg. It offers graduate and post-graduate courses, primarily in information technology, business, and management. The university boasts not only of superior quality of education but also of state-of-the-art facilities and modern solutions for learning, such as an online learning support system and e-library.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Sector:
Education



Location:
South Africa

Challenges:

- restricted WiFi access
- user segregation
- custom design and branding

Solution:

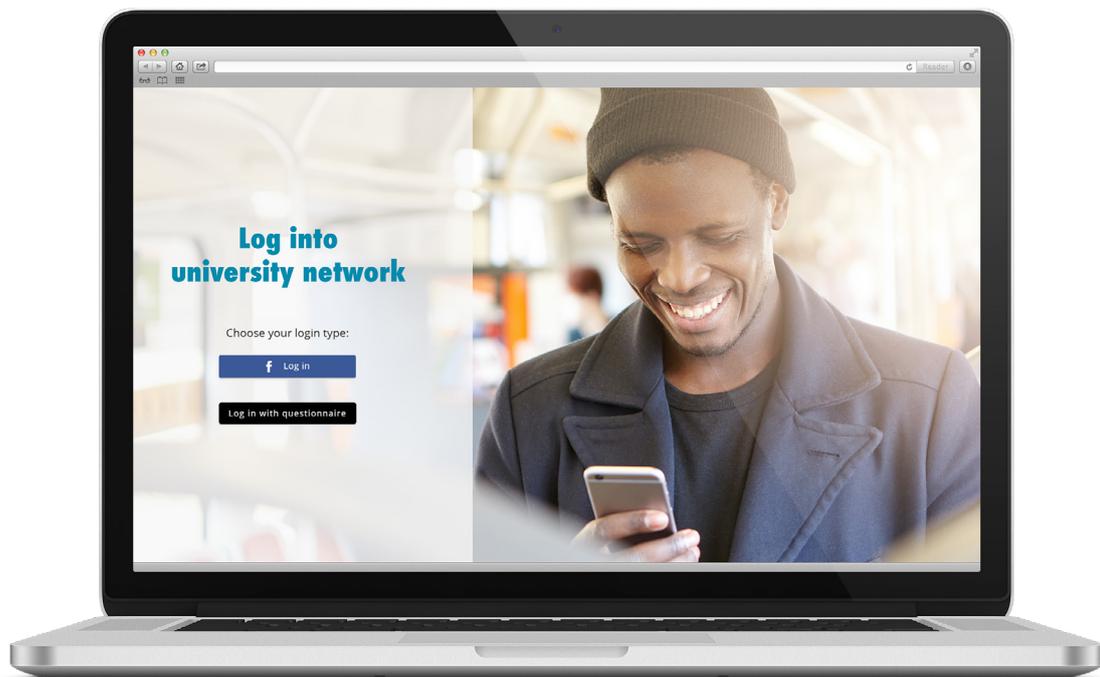


Benefits:

- effective use of bandwidth
- fast WiFi access for the university community
- easy-to-use login flow and captive portal creators

CHALLENGES

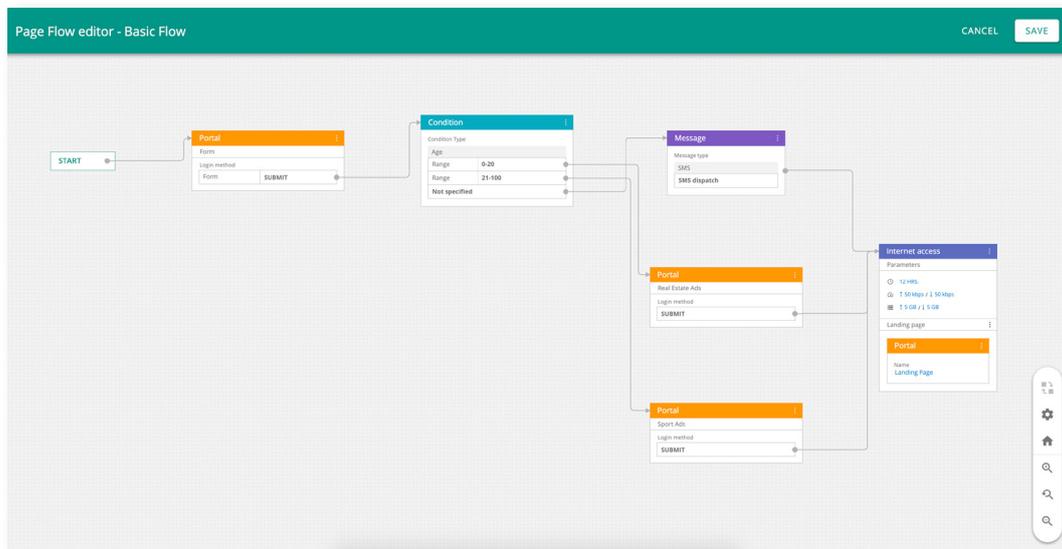
To keep up with the times, the university wanted to provide controlled internet access on their campuses to support the learning process. For that, they needed to distinguish between different user groups (e.g., students, faculty, or guests) to provide them with easy access, all the while ensuring different settings and limits for each group. Additionally, they wanted to take advantage of the popularity of free WiFi to display relevant information to end users; however, they also needed this customization process to be easy and manageable with limited resources.



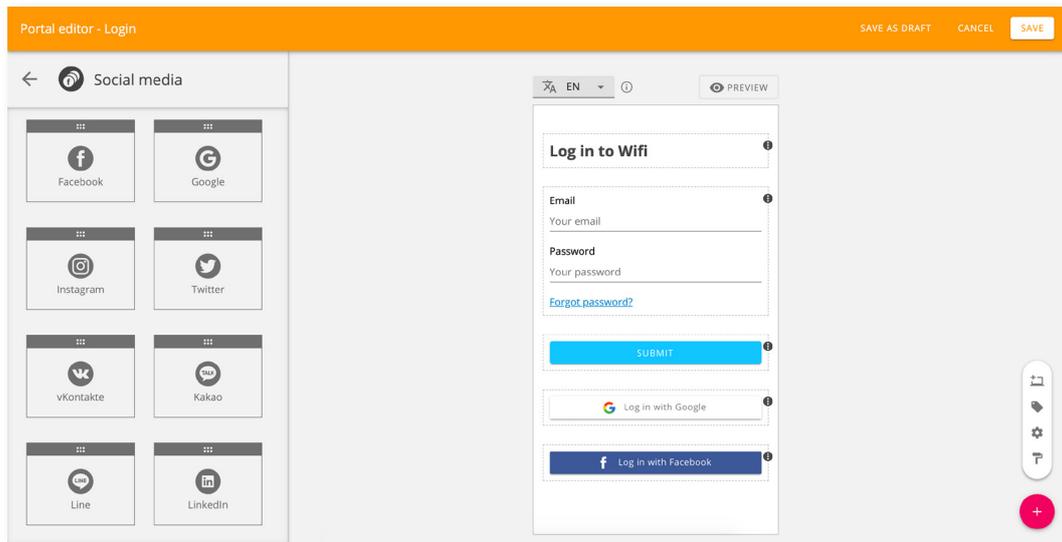
SOLUTION

To overcome their challenges, the university deployed 115 access points across 24 university buildings. All are managed by AVSystem’s Linkyfi – a web-based platform for WiFi access management that offers a host of value added services.

This way, using Linkyfi’s intuitive login flows, the university can easily set up different service set identifiers (SSID) for specific groups of active directory users; for example, Students SSID, Faculty SSID, etc. On the one hand, this gives the end users a fast way of logging into the network with their Microsoft account. On the other, the university can set up different settings for each group, deciding on things such as the quality of service, bandwidth, connection limits, portal design, etc. They can also restrict access for users who are not logged in to only use free WiFi to visit educational websites and applications.



Additionally, Linkyfi provides the university with a tool to quickly design attractive, customized captive portals. A what-you-see-is-what-you-get portal editor makes it possible to add multimedia content, social media links, different logging methods, and more.

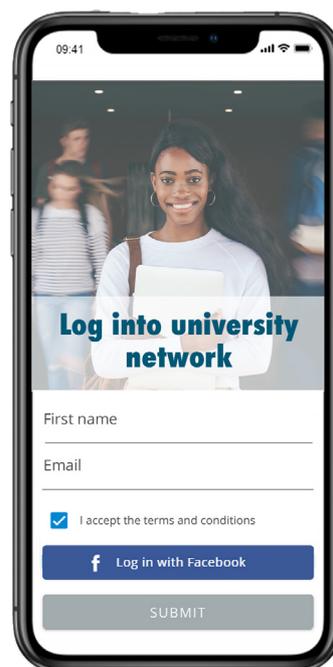


All this gives the school an ample set of solutions to maximize the effectiveness of its guest WiFi network.

BENEFITS

Thanks to Linkyfi, the university can ensure fair and controlled use of limited resources, i.e., WiFi bandwidth. Linkyfi's WiFi access management settings allow them to prioritize access for users who need it the most, for example, teachers who might use it when presenting to the class. At the same time, they can combat the adverse effects that unauthorized WiFi use would have. This is done by limiting access for non-logged-in users to only education-related websites. And the university community still has full internet access at literally just one click!

On top of that, by using Linkyfi's captive portal creator, the administrators have an easy way of designing interesting login sites and updating them as frequently as they need. They can target the content for specific user groups (e.g., by displaying different information relevant to students than to faculty). Additionally, they can redesign it in just a few clicks and easily adjust it to fit different screens – no graphic designers needed!





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