

**Academy of the Holy Names Goes High-Tech**

*Local Leading-Edge Technology Solutions Provider Helps Private School Bridge Traditional Education and Tablet Technology*

**Tampa, Fla. –** In time for fall, a monumental upgrade to a wireless network took place on Bayshore Boulevard. It involved the installation of the same equipment the Marine Corp uses throughout the Pacific Rim and the same equipment installed in the Tampa Convention Center to handle the web traffic of those attending the 2012 Republican National Convention.

While most would expect a top technology company or security provider in the area to require such capabilities, in this case, the upgrade took place at an institution that is in a *class* by itself.

This year, those attending the Academy of the Holy Names are primed to experience one of the most exciting school years in the Academy’s 131-year history following a $100,000 upgrade to the campus’s Wi-Fi capabilities courtesy of Mission Critical Solutions and Mainstream IP Solutions. The project exponentially improved the functionality of the school’s wireless network and enabled administrators to provide iPads to each student enrolled.

Mission Critical Solutions (MCS) and Mainstream IP Solutions (MIPS) were contracted to design, equip and install several areas of the 19-acre campus – including the Academy’s main building, chapel, Brady Center and Media Center – with high-performance wireless networks capable of heavy traffic, higher bandwidth and full coverage.

MCS’ and MIPS’ engineers performed a site survey to determine the bandwidth, traffic, and coverage required throughout the entire campus. The team configured a wireless network that utilizes 37 arrays and also covers the gymnasium, pool area, soccer fields and tennis courts.

“At the Academy of the Holy Names, we pride ourselves on providing our students with the best educational tools and technology available,” said Kent Smith, director of technology at the Academy of the Holy Names. “Mission Critical Solutions has helped us position ourselves as one of the most technologically advanced schools in the area, and we are looking forward to our best year yet.”

The Wi-Fi network consists of arrays that are multi-state programmable radios (2.5 Ghz or 5 Ghz), have upgradeable hardware and software, and offer on-board controllers which reduce switch requirements, as well as high gain directional antennas for 4 times the coverage of most antennas. The installation also included mid-span power injectors to power the arrays through the data line and reduce cable installation. The team also configured the arrays based on the Academy of the Holy Names specifications and tested the system to verify operability and coverage.

The team re-used existing data cabling when possible and installed excess cable to allow for future relocations. From start to finish, the project lasted roughly one month and was completed ahead of schedule allowing for ample time for testing and integration before the start of school on August 21.

“The team at MCS and MIPS was especially excited to work with the Academy of the Holy Names,” said MCS President and Founder Gilbert Gonzalez. “We take personal pride in fostering the education of today’s youth and in knowing our work will benefit local students for years to come.”

**About Mission Critical Solutions**

Mission Critical Solutions (MCS) is a leading-edge technology solutions provider, headquartered in Tampa, Florida. MCS provides a broad range of Technology products and services organized in six core lines of business – Information Technology, Telecommunications, Security, Technology Infrastructure & Specialty Contracting, Audio Visual Solutions, and Building Automation. MCS has demonstrated consistent growth during the past 23 years with locations in 16 states. With the majority of staff possessing high-level security clearances, MCS is a preferred vendor to the US Military as well as numerous government agencies and private sector organizations focused on secure solutions. In support of its domestic customers, MCS has established a national presence through its branch and project offices located across the United States, as well as, deploying in support of numerous projects overseas. Dedicated to product agnostic solutions tailored to best fit our customer’s needs, MCS provides tomorrow’s technologies for today’s challenges. For more information, visit: <http://www.missioncriticalsolutions.net>

MCS has a mentor-protégé agreement with MIPs that allows MCS to team with MIPS and support MIPS growth and development.

**About MIPS**

A minority owned (Certified MBE), hard-working small business based in Tampa, Florida.  Established March 3, 2010, Mainstream IP Solutions ﻿hit the ground running and quickly experienced success as a reseller and provider of cutting edge solutions, and services throughout our community.  Multi-scale solutions, communication products and project managing; we offer our customers the full package.  Mainstream IP Solutions, your "Next Generation Solutions Provider”.

**About The Academy of the Holy Names**

The Academy of the Holy Names is an independent, Catholic school that consists of a pre-k-8 co-educational elementary school and a college preparatory high school for young women. It is highly respected in the Tampa Bay area as a school committed to academic excellence in an environment where care and compassion for the individual are fostered. Its mission is to develop the spiritual, academic, personal and physical growth of each student within an atmosphere of care and concern; To provide quality educational opportunities for students of diverse ethnic, economic and religious backgrounds; To encourage each student to realize his/her full potential as an intelligent, cultural, spiritual and socially aware individual. Founded in 1881, the Academy of the Holy Names is the second oldest school in Florida. It is located at 3319 Bayshore Boulevard in Tampa and enrolls 830 total in the Elementary School (grades pre-kindergarten-8, co-ed) and High School (grades 9-12, all girls). For more information, visit: <http://www.holynamestpa.org>