

## The Telkonet iWire System™

Foyer de L'Enfant Jesus, Paris, France



Type of building	Student housing
Location	Paris, France
Date built	1985
Number of buildings	1 building
Number of floors	4 floors
Number of rooms	56 rooms
Telkonet installation date	May 2005

### Challenge

Find a quickly deployable solution that would provide Internet access throughout a 4-floor, 56-room student residence, without the expense, disruption and inflexibility of a hardwired system.

The Foyer de l'Enfant Jesus in Paris, a student housing organization in France run by Catholic nuns and part of the Union Nationale des Maisons d'Etudiants, provides housing for university students from all over the world. Sister Marie Emmanuel, the managing director of the Foyer de l'Enfant Jesus, needed to offer high-speed Internet access (HSIA) to attract students so their parents could communicate with them via the Internet on a daily basis.

In 2001, to meet the initial demand for HSIA, CAT 5 cabling was installed in nine student rooms and two administrative offices. This, however, had proved to be expensive and when Sister Marie Emmanuel was faced with the challenge of providing HSIA to additional rooms in 2005, extrapolating this expenditure across the rest of the building was not economically attractive. In addition, Sister Marie Emmanuel did not want to endure the consequential disruption during the wiring process or the lengthy timescale involved.

Sister Marie Emmanuel was therefore very motivated to find an alternative solution. Lakota, a Paris-based Telkonet reseller providing turnkey broadband Internet solutions for visitor-based networks, offered Sister Emmanuel the opportunity for

her Foyer to become a powerline communications (PLC) pioneer in the education sector. Lakota's managing director, Michelle Leonard, explained that Telkonet's PLC technology provides high-speed Internet access over a building's existing electrical wiring, saving costs and enabling Internet access from any outlet in any room. Sister Emmanuel was intrigued by this approach, and agreed to a trial for proof-of-concept.

This proved successful, with the Telkonet iWire System meeting the key requirements of minimal disruption balanced with a reasonable investment level, as well as easy and economic scalability to accommodate future demand.

### Solution

**Telkonet's system reduced the investment involved in delivering disruption-free Internet access.**

The Telkonet iWire System was chosen as the best fit to Foyer de l'Enfant Jesus' current and future broadband requirements – substantially reducing the investment involved, with the additional benefit of an experienced local resource to assist with the installation and ongoing support issues.

Telkonet's system proved to be an ideal solution on several counts. The initial installation cost could be kept very low; there would be no disruption to the building or individual student rooms, and the installation could be completed within a day.

Sister Marie Emmanuel explained: "Michelle's proposal to use the Telkonet solution, which delivers the Internet through the building's wiring, was an amazing idea to me. I was also excited by the thought of being a pioneer! Michelle and her team at Lakota were extremely helpful, so we trusted them to carry out the installation."

Emphasizing the speed of deployment that can be achieved by Telkonet's CE-certified PLC technology, the entire installation at the Foyer de l'Enfant Jesus was completed in just 2 hours! The electrician, who had never seen the Telkonet iWire System before, completed his part of the installation in just half an hour. The rest of the installation simply involved cabling between the Telkonet Gateway and the Telkonet Coupler to connect the building's power circuits, and then deploying and testing the Telkonet iBridges™ in the rooms. The Telkonet Gateway and Telkonet Coupler together provided the Internet backbone, ensuring that the entire building could receive HSIA – from any power outlet in any room.

Sister Marie Emmanuel continued: "Using wireless technology would not have been the right solution, as we would have needed special equipment installed in each corridor, and the students would have needed wireless-ready laptops. With the Telkonet iWire System, we only needed one Telkonet Gateway to serve the entire building, and this was far easier and more economical to achieve."

"The most important aspect was to avoid additional wiring, and at the same time to be able to make the Internet easily available to each room. With the CAT 5 method, I had to decide which rooms to wire, which was very difficult to manage, as students move rooms but we could not move the Internet connections. However, the Telkonet iBridge units are a perfect solution, as the students can connect them to any power outlet in any room. The Telkonet system is certainly easier and faster to use than CAT 5, as you can use it as soon as the system is installed, without having to set up each computer."

"We were the first Foyer to use Telkonet and are very pleased with the solution. Previously, students had to queue up to use a dial-up connection in the office area, and we had a rush hour at 6 pm every day. Now, there is never a rush hour! We enjoy the results every day – the students tell me the Telkonet iWire System is absolutely wonderful! It is perfect, because you have nothing else to do other than to connect your computer to the Telkonet iBridge to access the Internet. It is very, very quick, and is absolutely amazing. This was the best thing that we could have done."

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**"This solution is perfect for us – affordable, powerful and easily scalable. Installation could not have been quicker, and we have achieved a huge amount of flexibility for a limited budget."**

Sister Marie Emmanuel, Managing Director  
Foyer de l'Enfant Jesus

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The easy scalability of Telkonet's solution represents an important long-term benefit, as extending the service to other rooms is accomplished simply by plugging in extra Telkonet iBridge units, without wiring hassles or IP-address complications. Technically and economically this makes perfect sense for the Foyer, with the installation charges being recovered to ensure a return on investment. The cost of the Telkonet iBridges are reflected in the students' all-inclusive room rate, with the availability of HSIA acting as a powerful added-value attractor for any parents considering the Foyer de l'Enfant Jesus as an accommodation resource for their children.

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**www.telkonet.com**

**Telkonet Headquarters**

20374 Seneca Meadows Parkway  
Germantown, Maryland 20876.7004 U.S.A.  
sales@telkonet.com  
international@telkonet.com

Phone: 240.912.1800  
Toll-Free in the US: 866.375.6276  
Fax: 240.912.1839