



## *Customer Success Story: Consortium of Research and Education Organizations*

### **WHO**

Promoting consistent, reliable, interoperable and efficient advanced networking services to its members is just one of the goals of a consortium of more than 20 leading U.S. research and education networking organizations. The consortium also endeavours to represent the common interests of its members, who provide network service for numerous universities, and thousands of educational institutions.

### **BUSINESS ISSUE**

The increasing bandwidth needs of cost-conscious research and education members compelled the consortium to seek new ways to deliver high-speed access. Participating institutions required the means to meet their research and education goals, as well as access other high-speed research networks.

The consortium wanted an integrated DWDM solution of optical networking equipment that would let them “light up” the dark optical fiber forming the long-haul route and metro rings spanning the paths in its network.

The consortium is just one of many industries that are reducing costs by taking advantage of unused fiber lines and building private high-speed optical networks.

### **MERITON SOLUTION**

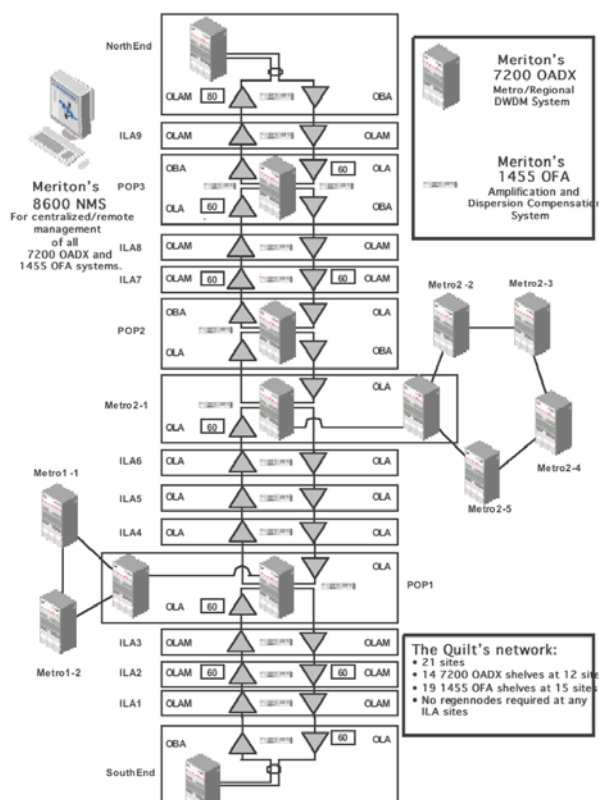
The Meriton high-speed architecture solution included Meriton 7200 OSP for DWDM, with optical and electronic ROADMs; Meriton 1455 OFA for amplification and dispersion compensation; and Meriton 8600 NMS and 8300 EMS for centralized/remote management of all 7200 OSP and 1455 OFA systems. This architecture cost-effectively met the consortium’s current needs, as well as serving future service requirements.

In developing its solution, Meriton drew on its extensive experience with similar research and education customers in Europe, the U.S. and Canada.

## BENEFITS

- Cost-effective; Enabled the consortium to grow its network one wavelength at time, non-disruptively, in-service at any time. Used SFP/XFP pluggable transceivers, single 10 G and 2.5 Gig wavelengths per segment.
- Growth; Added capacity only where needed in the network. Supported growth of up to 32 10 Gig wavelengths per segment using amplifiers and dispersion compensation, rather than expensive re-gen DWDM nodes, thus eliminating the need to add equipment or re-visit amp sites in the future.
- Easy upgrade path; Accommodated future growth to 32 10 Gig wavelengths per segment.
- 24X7 support: Ongoing support included sparing services, to ensure near 100% availability and reliability of the consortium's network.

## NETWORK DIAGRAM



**Figure 1: Meriton 7200 OSP Metro/Regional DWDM System**