

Call for eduroam mentors

October 2010

Eduroam in the UK is going from strength to strength. Usage of the service is at an all time high as recorded by the RADIUS traffic handled by the JANET proxy servers.

The number of registered member organisations is now 127 and significantly a majority of higher education institutions in the UK are now members.

There remain however a small number of member organisations that have yet to make major progress on implementing an operational service. We also would like encourage further UK institutions which have yet to become members of eduroam to adopt the service. The lack of progress in implementing operational services may be due to several factors, but one may be lack of technical confidence and this may also be a factor holding back organisations from joining.

We would like to help both categories of organisation to progress with eduroam and are launching a 'technical mentor' scheme to build an informal network of technical buddy partnerships to help and encourage wider adoption and implementation progress. JANET(UK) would put volunteers who have technical experience of specific RADIUS platforms, 802.1X and eduroam in contact with IT staff who have requested such help. We do not expect the technical mentor to have the advanced skills of the JRS Technical Support team, but they would have experience in their particular area and be eager to guide less confident colleagues in the community.

Since the technical mentor scheme would be on a voluntary basis, JANET(UK) would provide funds to cover reasonable expenses incurred by the mentor for any site visits.

If you would like to become involved in this scheme, either immediately or in the future, please contact me indicating the RADIUS platform you would be able to provide mentor support on.

Edward Wincott
JANET Roaming Service Manager, JANET(UK)
01235 822378
www.ja.net/roaming
twitter: eduroamUK