

# Indoor and outdoor wireless for healthcare charity

St Andrew's Healthcare, a charity which specialises in mental health, has signed a deal with Motorola which will see wireless networks rolled out both indoors and outdoors over several sites across the UK. The system will be used for voice, data, and real-time tracking of staff protection devices.

The deployment will use Motorola's RFS7000 switches together with AP7131 and AP650 access points to provide 802.11n wireless connectivity. Security and support will be provided by the firm's *AirDefense* wireless intrusion protection system, RF management software, and *Advanced Services*. The work will be carried out over a five year period by React Technologies, a partner of Motorola, and Comtact who is the technology partner for St Andrew's.

The charity currently has three sites in Birmingham, Essex, and Northampton with another site in Nottingham due to be opened in September. The scale of the project is demonstrated by the main



***St Andrew's Healthcare wants its wireless mesh for data, voice, and real-time tracking of staff protection devices***

campus at Northampton's 110 acres of buildings, parkland, and facilities which include a golf course, croquet lawns, and a chapel. This presented some key challenges as Paul Kirkpatrick, IT director at St Andrew's Healthcare, explains: "This large expanse of ground requires connectivity to four or more access points at any one time for guaranteed triangulation to ensure that staff can be located at any point within the site," he says. ■