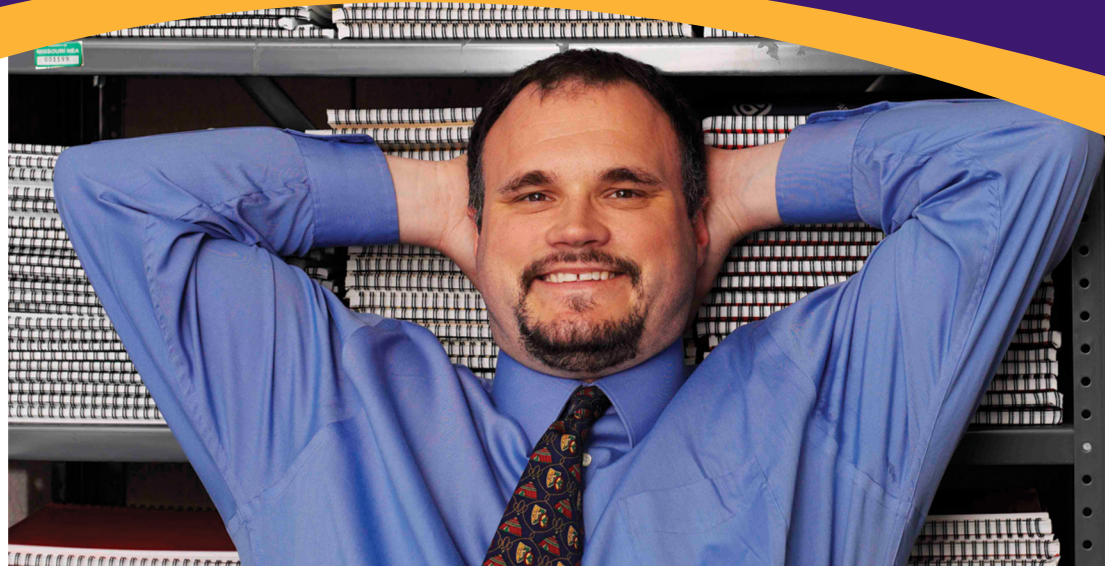


Missouri National Education Assoc.

“Socket combined voice, data and Internet for six office locations. I can finally take a real vacation for the first time in over six years.”

—Jay Hall, Manager of Information Systems
Jefferson City, MO



www.MNEA.org

Industry

Education

Socket Services

36 Voice Lines

MPLS Networking

Dedicated Internet Access

Local and Long-Distance
Telephone

Geographical Locations

Jefferson City

St. Louis

Kansas City

Springfield

O'Fallon

Festus

Statewide organization makes the grade with Socket's no-fail telecommunications solution.

Client

The Missouri National Education Association (MNEA) is a statewide organization that advocates for employees and students of public schools. Headquartered in Jefferson City, MNEA works in affiliation with the National Education Association (NEA) to build support for public education. The organization offers legislative and legal programs as well as professional development opportunities for its 33,000 members.

Challenge

Jay Hall, Manager of Information Systems for MNEA, says the organization used to juggle six different telephone and Internet bills from three different companies. Managing the web of bills and providers for MNEA's six locations across Missouri made it difficult to know which company to contact for support when questions or problems arose. Looking to consolidate its statewide services, MNEA couldn't seem to find an Internet or telecommunications provider up for the challenge.

Solution

Socket proposed a competitive bid for all of MNEA's telecommunications services. Hall believed Socket offered the best solution to meet the needs of each location in the most cost-efficient way. MNEA chose a bundled solution, combining local and long-distance telephone service and MPLS networking. With Socket's technology and assistance, MNEA has been able to implement a VoIP telephone system, which allows for toll-free calling and toll-bypass between its six offices.

Result

With Socket, MNEA now enjoys a single point of contact and enhanced control of the entire organization's telephone and Internet network from one location. In addition to the benefits of a more secure and reliable network, MNEA can easily track usage with the convenience of one monthly bill for all locations. Socket's solution allowed MNEA to save time and money and better direct resources towards its members.