

Networking Design and Administration

Part B: Unit 24 Network Design & Administration

Scenario

*As a junior consultant working for a company specialising in designing computer networks, you have been asked to work with a young company called **StudentPhones.com** to advise them on the different types of network available. You are asked to prepare a report to assist in winning the contract to design a network suitable for StudentPhones.com, so it is important that you show that you are knowledgeable about networking and have considered the different options available. Some background about the company is provided for you below:*

StudentPhones.com was formed by two students who had just completed their university degree with the original concept of selling mobile telephones to students via an Internet web site. They bought a selection of phones in bulk and then advertised them on their web site, which proved to be far more successful than they had envisaged. Originally they had rented a small office from which all business was conducted but now they are planning to expand to other cities in the UK.

To do this they will need offices throughout the UK with secure Internet connections allowing customers to purchase by credit card and to allow the offices to communicate with each other. Each office will employ 4-6 staff with about 10 at their home base.

They want a centralised solution with all staff user accounts managed centrally and feel that a domain would be the best way forward. In order to maintain a centralised database of products, customers, orders and related data the company requires that web services and databases should be installed at the home base only and that all customer access will be directed to the home base. The branch offices will be equipped with web-based applications allowing the employees to view all records relating to customers such as customer details, orders and so on.

An ISP will take responsibility for managing the company's domain name, and will manage all Internet traffic.