

# Smolny Museum

## State-of-the-art Network Brings Immersive Experience to Russian Museum Visitors

### Customer at a glance


**Customer Name**

Smolny Museum


**Industry**

Museum


**Country**

Russia



### Customer Background

Located in St. Petersburg, the Smolny Historical and Memorial Museum is itself a piece of history, located in a beautiful Palladian building constructed in 1806.

"We're very thankful to BMK and Zyxel Networks for deploying our new network. It's modern and reliable, and it means that together with our partners, we're making our city's treasure more visible and accessible."

**Nikolai Tretyakov**  
 Director, Smolny Museum

### Summary

To mark the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Leningrad, Smolny Museum opened a special new exposition, "Zhdanov's Bunker". In planning the exhibit, itself set in a real underground shelter, the museum wanted an immersive experience that would be like putting visitors in a time machine. For the wired and wireless connectivity to support multimedia displays as well as staff and visitor WiFi, this meant deploying a network in an underground space – a notoriously difficult challenge. Furthermore, to maintain the authenticity of the exhibit, all network equipment had to be kept hidden. This was achieved through a combination of Zyxel GS2210-24HP switches and easy-to-mount WAC6103D-I 802.11ac access points, managed via the NXC2500 WLAN Controller. With high data rates and round-the-clock stability thanks to the APs' innovative dual-optimized antenna, the network has kept the exhibit running smoothly since its opening. Following the success and positive reception of the exhibition, the museum plans to complete another floor of the bunker in the future. The addition will again require outfitting of network infrastructure, and the museum already has Zyxel Networks in its sights for the project – a vote of confidence and the best demonstration of a job well done.

### Challenges

- Equip the exhibition premises with a network capable of supporting modern multimedia equipment and give visitors an immersive experience
- Avoid installing new infrastructure inside walls while also not having equipment detract from the museum's appearance

### Benefits

- Comprehensive wired and wireless infrastructure enables smooth operation of the facility and internet access for employees and visitors
- Infrastructure integrated seamlessly into the environment for a pleasant visitor experience
- Competitive combination of product price and quality

### Solutions

- NXC2500 WLAN Controller
- GS2210-24HP L2 Managed Switch
- WAC6103D-I 802.11ac Access Point