

tions," he says. Whilst most hotels have gone with either wi-fi or hard-wired connections, the Duxton has decided to install both options in a bid to meet customers' needs. The Duxton's top five floors are hard-wired and fitted for wi-fi. All other rooms in the hotel are wireless enabled.

The hotel's 17 conference rooms feature

broadband products and charges and customers can buy time when they check in.

The maximum charge is \$24.95 for 24 hours with no download or upload restrictions. "Customers choosing this option will get 512Kbit/s min bursting to 2Mbit/s download speeds and 512Kbit/s upload."

At the other end of the spectrum the Duxton provides in-room access for an hour

Overend says "We selected Knossos Networks as they were the most flexible, cost effective and easy to use. We can get enhancements done very quickly that need code written.

"When ISPs reduce charges hotel broadband is likely to become an expected service that will be provided very cheaply or free of charge, just like colour TV."

i-solutions becomes Voco

Richard Wood

ICT consultancy i-solutions has changed its name to Voco and is preparing itself for further significant expansion.

Founding director Michael Foley says the rebranding follows from the need to keep itself relevant in a fast changing environment.

He says telecommunications consult-

ants have faced a huge shift in how the market defines them.

"The traditional telco consultant's skills are losing relevance in a world where IT is collapsing in on itself.

"We have built up a range of skills that are required to execute transformation initiatives. These include programme management, sourcing, architecture and customer interaction skills."

The company has 19 staff and is aiming to bring on another half dozen this year. Foley says this is for a combination of business already arranged and further initiatives anticipated this year in both the government and private sectors.

He says the regulatory announcement by the Government is also creating an environment where more organisations will look at what they need to do.

Telecom enters WiMAX territory

Telecom wi-fi guru Paul Stoddart has been put in charge of pushing WiMAX wireless technology for the company, reporting to Greg Patchell, general manager technology, strategy and capability for IS. Stoddart was responsible for establishing Telecom's wi-fi hotspots around the country last year. Telecom has suitable frequencies available for WiMAX at 2.3GHz and 3.5GHz, albeit the Commerce Commission is still looking at the acquisition at the end of last year of the 3.5GHz spectrum. A WiMAX capable PCMCIA card is expected by the end of this year and by 2008 a multi-band chipset is expected in PDAs and laptops. There could be opportunity in future to roam across WiMAX networks globally and across other networks using trimode devices that can do 3G, wi-fi and WiMAX.



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