

Image not found or type unknown

Viya Secures Contract for High-Speed Connectivity in Public Schools

Technology / **Published On April 10, 2023 03:38 AM /**

Staff Consortium **April 10, 2023**

Image not found or type unknown



Viya recently announced that it has been awarded the V.I. Department of Education's E-Rate Wide Area Network (WAN) Leased Lit Fiber contract. This partnership aims to bring high-speed, fiber-based connectivity to all public schools in the territory.

The Schools and Libraries (E-rate) Program offers discounts to help eligible institutions obtain affordable internet access and telecommunications services. Viya, which has invested over \$100 million in building a resilient, fully redundant network over the past six years, said it will work alongside viNGN to connect more than 50 educational sites as part of the V.I. D.O.E.'s Wide Area Network.

Viya CEO Geraldine Pitt sees this partnership as a step forward in facilitating public-private initiatives, ensuring a more digitized teaching and learning experience across the territory. The 100 percent fiber-based project will provide the fastest speeds, with the inter-island link between the two V.I. Department of Education Network Operations Centers (NOCs) guaranteeing continued connectivity even during outages.

Education Commissioner Dr. Dionne Wells-Hedrington expressed her enthusiasm for the partnership, highlighting the critical role of reliable internet connectivity in educating 21st-century learners. She said she looks forward to the swift rollout of the E-rate program.

Viya said it has a strong track record of supporting educational initiatives in the USVI. During the Covid-19 pandemic, V.I. D.O.E. contracted Viya for over 5,000 Mi-Fi/Mobile Hotspot devices, which allowed students to attend school remotely using the provider's high-speed 4G LTE network.

The company said that as the premier ICT and Managed Services provider, it is proud to have an entirely local account and implementation team working closely with the VI Department of Education to ensure that VI students remain connected.