

solarwinds  
**MAXIMIZE VELOCITY**  
 AND SPEED PAST NETWORK DOWNTIME!

**Bandwidth Analyzer Pack**  
 deploys fast, in less than 1 hour.  
**TRY IT FREE >>**

Galleries | Research | Blogs | CXO Challenge | Topics | Resources | Events | Newsletter

SIGN IN JOIN

Home / News / Technology / Telco/ISP

# iiNet wins Victorian free wi-fi deal

By *Paris Cowan* on Oct 29, 2014 2:13 PM (19 hours ago)  
 Filed under *Telco/ISP*

Sign up to receive iNews email bulletins

FOLLOW US..



Like 8 Tweet 16 g+1 0 Share 26 2 Comments



Victorian Treasurer Michael O'Brien takes what he claims to be the first 'selfie' using Melbourne's free wi-fi network (Source: Twitter)

### Tags

[iinet](#), [wifi](#), [free](#), [wifi](#), [denis](#), [naphtine](#), [victoria](#), [melbourne](#)

### Related Articles

[Vic Govt promises 3D printers for all state high schools](#)

[Vic Premier promises \\$30m in IT grants for manufacturers](#)

[Melbourne CBD to get free wi-fi](#)

[Canberra's wi-fi network to block file sharing P2P traffic](#)

### Breaking Stories

[PCEHR privacy breached twice in 12 months](#)

[Curtin plots affordable driverless car within a decade](#)

[Defacto Aus Govt CIO leaves after six months](#)

[Brandis lobbied to ditch 'rushed' data retention](#)

## Claims \$6.7m network will be Australia's biggest.

iiNet will build and operate Victoria's free wi-fi network under a \$6.7 million deal with the state government and Melbourne City Council.

The telco pushed go on the first three wi-fi regions - in the Melbourne, Ballarat and Bendigo CBDs - today, adding to the list of cities across the country where the ISP has been contracted to roll out free wi-fi networks under various digital economy-boosting schemes.

It has already won similar jobs in [Perth](#) and [Canberra](#), and its subsidiary Internode will do the same for the [Adelaide CBD](#).

The pre-election sweetener was [promised by Victorian Premier Denis Naphtine in March](#), as part of a strategy to attract business and tourism to the state.

The \$6.7 million grant from the state will pay for the first five years' operation of the 'VicGovFree' network, which will be made up of 1000 wireless access points across the three cities, offering users a free daily quota of up to 250 megabytes.

Coverage will eventually be available at city loop train stations, state parliament, the Queen Victoria Markets and Federation Square, plus a handful of inner city parks. Connectivity will also extend onto Melbourne trams operating the city circle line as well as on Bendigo's tourist tram.

Technology Minister Gordon Rich-Phillips has hailed the service as a digital equaliser.

"It will provide Victorians who don't have internet access at home or mobile internet with a means of getting online to access information about government services, employment and public transportation," he said in stamenent.

"The service will not carry advertising, request personal email addresses or passwords, or collect browsing history," he added.

iiNet chief business officer Greg Baidar staked his claim on the network being "the largest wi-fi deployment in Australia and one of the largest in the world".

"Public wi-fi is now the new benchmark for modern communities," he said.

Copyright © iNews.com.au . All rights reserved.



[Photos: Inside Telstra's \\$112m new HQ](#)

[Telstra CIO resigns](#)

[iiNet facing new copyright battle with Hollywood](#)

[Microsoft offers dedicated fibre connections to Aussie Azure cloud](#)

[iiNet founder Michael Malone backs new infosec company](#)



### Latest Articles from BIT



[Do you direct debit customers? Read this](#)  
 Oct 10, 2014  
 Authorities have been targeting direct debit practices with iiNet and Dodo receiving formal ...



[Optus expands 4G coverage](#)  
 Oct 10, 2014  
 If you rely on an Optus phone for work you might be interested to know that there are now 200 ...



[Microsoft Office is now free for some charities](#)  
 Oct 10, 2014  
 Microsoft has announced that eligible Australian non-profit organisations and charities can now ...



[Vodafone lights up 4G in Adelaide](#)  
 Oct 9, 2014  
 Live and work in Adelaide? Vodafone has switched on its 4G network in the