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# Seattle Convention Center Opens Modern Expansion

Seattle Convention Center  
Summit Building



## Challenge

What kind of building do you design that modernizes a sprawling convention center to meet the needs of a city that attracts everything? In 2023, Seattle opened their definitive answer with the new Summit addition that—when paired with the existing Arch facility—now gives the Washington city two convention centers within a few blocks of each other.

The impressive glass-and-steel exterior of the new convention center opens to natural wood-accented mezzanines, atriums, and balconies lined with floor to ceiling windows on every side. Half the ground floor will host restaurants and shops, with the remainder of the 573,770 square-foot space—including 62 meeting rooms, two exhibit halls, and a ballroom with a 55-foot ceiling—reserved for event attendees.

To establish the network infrastructure of such a vast and complex facility, Ednetics played an instrumental role in the design, staging, implementation, and corporate support for all network closets in the new Summit building. As the managed network service provider, it took three years of meticulous focus and collaboration while overcoming logistical feats. Despite challenging times, Ednetics helped the city launch a highly advanced convention center thousands will flock to for decades to come.

Problem Solved:



**Network  
Infrastructure**

## Solution

Before the ribbon cutting in January 2023, the center had spent a half-decade under construction, with the project reaching a climax during the COVID pandemic. Ednetics worked with over 100 contractors throughout the network infrastructure install. This, along with supply chain issues, juggling subcontractors, and engaging with additional partners, added to the challenging situation.

Worked with  
**100+**  
Contractors

**30+**  
Custom Closets  
Created

**100+**  
Cisco Switches  
Installed

This huge, complex infrastructure demanded meticulous precision and preparation from Ednetics engineers, project management personnel, and the Prime Electric team. They even drew up point-to-point temporary solutions when fiber wasn't delivered on time.

Eventually, they created more than 30 closets, each one carefully crafted to meet the particular needs of its designated space. The team staged each closet prior to putting it into place to ensure functionality. After installing, they fitted and configured each component to exactness. Over 100 Cisco switches were installed.

Throughout everything, the Ednetics team closely communicated with the convention center's administration to guarantee all requirements were met, and that the newly constructed closets would be compatible with the center's existing systems.



## Setting a Precedent

Even during challenging times, the state-of-the-art infrastructure project came in on time and under budget. The team's efforts hit a lit-up moment when the new Summit center welcomed the public. The new network closets worked flawlessly, linking with pre-existing systems, allowing visitors impressive connection and advanced technical services.

The high level of performance in this convention center project sets an industry standard for future infrastructure projects. The Ednetics team is now at work designing and upgrading the Arch building infrastructure, so the Seattle Convention Center stays up to speed down every block.

### Technology for public good.

At Ednetics, we believe that technology can be a force for good. With our deep expertise and sense of responsibility, we provide real-time problem solving and future planning to help our clients operate securely and successfully. From K-12 schools to higher education institutions to state and local governments, Ednetics partners with organizations to meet evolving needs and achieve their missions through the power of IT.

