



Convention & Visitors Bureau

408 Almaden Boulevard
San José, California 95110
Phone: 408.295.9600
Fax: 408.295.3937
Web: www.sanjose.org

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Marie Vasquez, Senior Marketing Manager
408.792.4125
mvasquez@sanjose.org

SAN JOSE CVB ANNOUNCES FREE DOWNTOWN WIFI USAGE STATISTICS

Nearly 24,000 Logins Made In First Year

SAN JOSE, CALIF. – JUNE 8, 2005 – The San José Convention and Visitors Bureau (SJCVB) today announced that nearly 24,000 logins – an average of 67 per day -- were made on the bureau-sponsored Free Downtown WiFi Network since its debut in March 2004. Also during its inaugural 12-month period, the Free Downtown WiFi network maintained a 99.8% up-time rating, ensuring nearly flawless service.

The Free Downtown WiFi network allows users at several downtown locations to surf the Internet free of charge on their laptops or other WiFi-enabled devices. Registration only takes seconds and simply asks for a unique user name and the user's ZIP code; no other personal information is ever requested.

"As the Capital of Silicon Valley, it is only fitting that San José offers its residents and visitors new options when it comes to Internet connectivity in the city center," said Dan Fenton, president and CEO of the SJCVB. "We look forward to working with the City to expand free service in Downtown at the new City Hall, Guadalupe River Park, and other public spaces."

Usage peaked in October 2004, with a high of 2,611 logins – an average of 82 per day -- during a month that saw a number of conventions and meetings at San José's convention and cultural facilities, including the California Science Education Conference, the Network Systems Design Conference, and the International HP Non-Stop Users Group (ITUG). March 2005 saw another high, with a record 599 unique users for the month. Overall, total logins to San Jose's Free Downtown WiFi from March 2004 to March 2005 averaged 1,844 per month, with more than 400 unique users each month.

Powered by Partnerships

Free Downtown WiFi was spearheaded by the SJCVB in conjunction with the City of San José's Office of Economic Development, the San José Redevelopment Agency, San Jose Downtown Association, and the Silicon Valley Wireless Communications Alliance.

San Jose-based Global Netoptex, Inc. (GNI) provided network design, installation, and operations services on a *pro bono* basis, and Cisco provided free equipment.

The SJCVB handles all technical support issues via 1.800.SAN.JOSE. For more information about Free Downtown WiFi, please visit www.sanjose.org/wifi.

About The San José Convention & Visitors Bureau (SJCVB)

The San José Convention & Visitors Bureau's (SJCVB) mission is to enhance the image and economic well being of San José by taking the leadership role in marketing San José as a globally recognized destination. The SJCVB offers meeting planners, tour operators, and individual visitors a team of professionals who can assist with their destination planning process from beginning to end. To receive a copy of the Bureau's *Meeting Planning Guide* or *Official Visitors Guide*, please contact the SJCVB at 1.800.SAN.JOSE (1.800.726.5673) or visit <http://www.sanjose.org>.

###