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## Installing a BlueCat IP Management Solution

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NREL has been using Lucent QIP as its IP management system for last ten years. Licensing costs, usability and manageability has long been an issue with the product. We are in the process of replacing the Lucent QIP system with an appliance-based IP management system from BlueCat Networks. BlueCat Networks developed this secure DNS and DHCP solution to solve several problems faced by today's business networks. Misconfigured or misallocated IP infrastructures create complexity and pose security risks. Standard Microsoft Windows-based DNS and older versions of BIND are inherently insecure. UNIX or Linux-based DNS solutions with BIND are more secure, but require dedicated expertise and are susceptible to syntactical and logical errors. Deployed externally or on an internal network, BlueCat is the industry-leading DNS and DHCP solution that solves these issues and securely provisions mission-critical services. The BlueCat system does not have license limitations and has a web interface to ease the addition of new MAC layer addresses to the allowed address pool. It also has additional management services that make it easier to audit changes and age-out old MAC layer address automatically. For redundancy multiple appliances are being installed in each network. An overall management server will control and sync the appliances.

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