



CUSTOMER STORY

Lutterworth High School

Lutterworth High School Deploys IGEL for Desktop Management and Energy Savings



Lutterworth High School

Lutterworth High School is an 11-14 years co-educational comprehensive school serving a wide rural area of South Leicestershire. The school sits at the heart of the local community and has a firm commitment to ensuring that all its students feel secure and challenged during their time there.

Having studied the benefits of a server-based computing approach, Caroline Lucas, Network Manager at Lutterworth High School was delighted when the school decided to invest in the move from its traditional PC and server system.

Management time and cost savings

"I knew that by introducing a served-based computing system that we could make significant management time and cost savings, while providing a great technology learning environment for the school," explained Caroline.

The school chose to work with Cutter Project Limited on the technology deployment, as they were server-based computing and virtualization experts with a depth of experience in the Education sector.

After examining the options of virtual desktops and zero clients, Cutter and Caroline settled on thin clients from leading German manufacturer IGEL Technology for the task. The Linux IGEL UD3 thin clients would form part of a server-based computing solution with the school's server farm running Microsoft Windows Terminal Services 2003, remotely managed by Cutter. The school recognized that this approach would allow Caroline, who managed the school network alone, to concentrate on innovative technology developments to add value to the learning environment, with the back-up of experts at Cutter to provide network support as required.

THE CUSTOMER

- ▶ Lutterworth High School
- ▶ Comprehensive school in South Leicestershire
- ▶ Teaching 11-14 year-olds

The school has now deployed more than 120 IGEL thin clients in the library, 2 suites for Science and general research and in small clusters in classrooms and for staff administration.

"The Suites are used by students for online research and to access online and server-based learning environments. Students have access to applications such as Office, Dreamweaver, Gimp 2, Google Sketchup, 2D Design and in addition staff have access to SIMS, the schools information management system."

IGEL Management software key to success

IGEL's Universal Desktop strategy enables organizations to deliver all their server-based applications, anywhere, with the best user experience, security, ease of management, and lowest total cost of ownership (TCO). The software, or firmware, embedded in every IGEL Universal Desktop contains the industry's largest collection of server-based protocols for connecting to centralized applications. With Linux, Microsoft® Windows® Embedded Standard and Microsoft® Windows® Embedded CE operating systems available and IGEL's different Feature Packs (Entry, Standard and Advanced), customers only pay for what they need.

RemoteFX enhances the user experience for remotely displayed graphics. This enhancement allows Windows desktops and applications – including Windows Aero, Microsoft Silverlight, and Adobe Flash animations; full-motion videos; and 3D applications – to be displayed remotely with nearly the same quality of user experience over local networks (LAN), as can be experienced directly on a local PC.



Technology and User benefits

“From a technology management standpoint the roll-out to date has been very successful,” commented Caroline. “Using the IGEL UMS management software, the thin clients can be up and running virtually straight out of the box. We have set-up the UMS software so that when we put a new client onto the system it immediately creates its own custom partition and the students can log in straight away.”

Roll-out and management of the new desktop regime is straightforward using IGEL’s Universal Management Suite software. This UMS software, which comes free with every device, can be used to set-up, maintain and upgrade all IGEL thin clients from a central location. It is a simple to use management tool, which can have thin clients up and running in minutes. Intuitive to use, secure and scalable up to 100,000 thin clients, the IGEL UMS drastically reduces management time for IT administrators.

Using the UMS, Caroline can manage day-to-day tasks as required and if more support is required, the Cutter team has the ability to remotely log-in and manage the system.

“It works very well for the students and us and teachers also seem to like the thin clients; the box is small so doesn’t take up much room on the desk and it is very quick to log-in and boot up,” explained Caroline.

THE CHALLENGE

- ▶ A more cost effective and manageable desktop solution
- ▶ Supported by a small team and remote management back-up
- ▶ Able to run multimedia

In fact, the roll-out has gone so well that the school has just recently decided to look at adding another suite in the next academic year.

“Our original expectations have certainly been met,” said Caroline. “We believed that the new system would mean less desktop management time, savings on energy bills and longer running and cheaper to replace desktops. It’s too early to talk about hard numbers right now but savings are already being made. For example, in the old PC suites we had to have the air conditioning system running flat out to deal with the heat output from the energy they were using. The thin clients stay so cool, using so little power, that we do not have to have air conditioning in the new suite we are planning.”

THE SOLUTION

- ▶ IGEL UD3 Linux devices with the Universal Management Suite
- ▶ Supported by IGEL Partner Cutter Project Limited
- ▶ Linux devices with RemoteFX capability

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thin clients

development

services

solutions

Many functions. One device.