

Asset Management software provides a strategic solution for the Chicago Public School District



Client Profile

In the 2004-2005 school year, the Chicago Public School District began researching how technology could help assess, diagnose, and apply coherent measures to foster and improve early literacy in grades K-3.

Under the guidance and vision of its Chief eLearning Officer, Sharnell Jackson, Chicago's Office of Technology Services eLearning (OTS eLearning) and the Office of Literacy collaborated to bring technology and automation to literacy-screening, data-informed and personalized instruction, and ongoing progress-monitoring. Their efforts took shape in a program that, in its first year, put wireless PDAs in the hands of hundreds of teachers in some 144 schools.

The Challenge

In keeping with its focus to use leading, cost-effective technologies to meet educational objectives, the Chicago Public Schools had to answer a critical question:

How to administer and manage thousands of PDAs and end-user devices to ensure they are properly distributed to the right teachers at the right educational institutions. And to do it all under serious time constraints.

The Solution

The asset management issue became quite acute in the summer of 2007, with a few weeks before the start of the new academic year. Liz Cochran, a Chicago Public School administrator was particularly concerned, as she was given the task and responsibility to research, recommend, and purchase a cost-effective asset management tool, and then implement the solution quickly and seamlessly.



Chicago Public
School District

Challenge

How to administer and manage thousands of end-user devices to ensure they are properly distributed to the right teachers at the right educational institutions under serious time constraints.

Solution

Visual Asset Manager, a rapid turnkey solution that was quickly deployed, configured, and customized to address the issues of bringing real-time tracking, and accountability in a timely fashion.

Benefits

- Time savings with automated inventory and management of assets
- Greater control of mobile assets without limiting their use with check-in and check-out resources
- Manage budget planning with usage and depreciation tracking
- Easily track assets via intuitive and graphical user interface

Visual Asset Manager

After researching for the best asset management solution to meet their requirements, Liz chose NetSimplicity's Visual Asset Manager because it could handle every critical requirement. And in spite of serious time constraints, NetSimplicity's rapid turnkey deployment helped Liz accomplish real-time tracking and accountability in a matter of hours.

A sound asset management effort promotes communications across departments, facilitating coordinated planning and decision making. Regardless of the particulars, Visual Asset Manager's flexible, intuitive, and graphical interface make the software easy to configure and use. Visual Asset Manager offered the Chicago Public School district a management system that automated inventory and management of assets, resulting in lowering operational costs and improving overall return on capital.

Its unique visual mapping and customizable interface allowed for a quick installation to meet Chicago Public School's unique needs. Visual mapping involves using actual floor plans to graphically place assets in their physical locations and to record information about such assets.

The Results

In the Chicago Public School's case, NetSimplicity managed to have a fully functional system in place in just a few hours. By importing data from existing repositories, it became a simple process to scan the PDAs, record pertinent information, and relate them to a location and a teacher.

NetSimplicity was able to meet the pressing needs of the Chicago Public School district to manage thousands of assets and to do so under tremendous time constraints. This highlights the effectiveness of NetSimplicity's Visual Asset Manager software and the company's commitment to help its customers succeed.

In 2005-06, the Chicago Public Schools reported a doubling in the percentage of students that met state standards in all elementary grades and assessed subjects, and expanded the PDA program to 457 schools. To be sure, there are many factors influencing this impressive outcome. One such factor is the willingness to explore best-of-breed technological asset management solutions to help in the administration of this educational effort.

NetSimplicity and its Visual Asset Manager software continue to provide key solutions to supporting educational institutions and their missions.

Meeting the pressing needs of the Chicago Public School district to manage thousands of assets, and to do so under tremendous time constraints, highlights the effectiveness of NetSimplicity's Visual Asset Manager software and the company's commitment to help its customers succeed.



Visual Asset Manager is an intuitive, graphical enterprise asset management software system that automates inventory and management of assets to lower operational costs and improve return on capital.

Its unique visual mapping and customizable interface helps you get up and running quickly with a solution tailored to meet your unique needs.

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