

# Asset Management at Work in a k-12 school setting

## Case Study: Catoosa County School District

### **Client Profile:**

The Catoosa county public school district is located in Ringgold, Georgia. Catoosa County contains 16 schools and one district office. Catoosa County has become one of the most lauded counties within Georgia for its educational prowess. Its schools have won numerous accolades including National Blue Ribbons School, Georgia School of Excellence, Georgia Dream School, Title I distinguished school, and Core Knowledge School. Catoosa County strives to continue its pedigree of excellence.

### **The Situation:**

The district as a whole had a large number of assets that needed to be tracked and monitored. These assets included furniture, IT assets, and lunch equipment. The district had encountered difficulties regarding their asset management, in particular tracking certain assets throughout the district as they were relocated.

Amongst the specific challenges facing Catoosa County were:

- tracking asset movement between different school sites
- proper inventorying of assets across sites
- streamlining asset acquisition to cut down on cost
- retiring/donating damaged or outdated assets
- varying asset needs at different school sites/types (elementary, middle, high school)

### **The Solution:**

Catoosa County approached E-ISG needing a more developed asset management system. E-ISG created an asset management plan that would utilize Visual Asset Manager (VAM). Catoosa County chose E-ISG and VAM because when comparing similar products in the asset management field, VAM allowed for an unparalleled level of freedom and versatility. VAM's flexibility and adaptability made it perfectly suited for Catoosa County. Once Catoosa County and E-ISG agreed to a project plan, the asset management system was fully implemented in the spring of 2008. As part of their asset management system, Catoosa County chose to employ bar code scanners in conjunction with VAM. These scanners would allow for simplified asset tracking. As well, the scanners would allow for items to be quickly and efficiently checked in and out at a site, or even across sites. As VAM was being installed, Catoosa County elected to conduct wall to wall inventories and audits because they had a low degree of clutter (meaning they would be able to conduct an audit quickly without having to move other objects to locate an asset). As VAM was being installed, Catoosa County made sure that every site had an inventory administrator to help train staff in the new software. E-ISG greatly stresses that an asset management system can not function effectively unless it is universally adopted.

**Results:**

Catoosa County acted as the perfect client and has fully installed VAM into the daily function of each of the seventeen schools within the county. Though there have been some slight alterations since its initial installation, VAM has remained an important component for the prosper functioning of the school district. VAM has enabled Catoosa County to accurately understand their asset needs. It has helped them diagnose which assets are under utilized and should be discarded and which items are over utilized, meaning that additional units should be ordered. Overall in the words of Cheryl Lanham, the Database Administrator Catoosa County Schools, "Visual Asset Manager is a versatile system customizable to fit the needs of any business or school district." As well, that VAM allows Catoosa County to "make wise decisions on spending in these tough economic times."

**About E-ISG:**

E-ISG combines technology and services to address the unique challenges of Asset Management, Continuity of Operations, and Data Quality. Our experience in crafting low-impact and low-cost solutions for the Windows Mobile environment for data gathering, synchronization and correlation have been integrated seamlessly into our world-class asset management software, Visual Asset Manager (VAM). VAM enables E-ISG to have Full Accountability Mandates and to accurately reflect the true cost of business enterprise.

We focus on four key industries that have special needs related to Asset Management, Continuity of Operations and Data Quality. E-ISG has designed special features into its products to provide a truly optimized process that can be replicated across the enterprise.