

Low-cost computing for education

Let teachers teach: reliable computing rescues class time at Maral College

Challenge

Teachers spent so much time fixing PCs that they lost valuable teaching time.

Solution

NComputing virtual desktops are so reliable that the teachers at Maral College have stopped being technicians and have gone back to full-time teaching.

Impact

“We have already realized savings of 70% on operating costs and 80% on energy bills.”

Partner

Dojop Technology Ltd, an NComputing reseller, specified, installed, and supported the solution.

Maral College in Izmir, Turkey was established in 2007 to deliver pre-school and primary education. Their modern building was ambitiously designed to provide internet access, computer labs, and technology in every classroom. But their plans went quickly awry.



Students learn in an affordable and reliable computer lab.

The PCs became a maintenance nightmare. In fact, the teachers spent so much time troubleshooting that they had to spend valuable class time fixing machines before they could teach. In just the first two years of operation, the school was hobbled by this ever-increasing maintenance burden and the need to refresh the entire system just to keep up with the demands of the staff and pupils.

Time to learn

Per design, the classes rely very heavily on technology. For example, the teachers use Microsoft PowerPoint to present class notes and to review online resources.

The school asked Dojop Technology Ltd if there was a way to get rid of the maintenance problems without hiring a small army of technicians, which they couldn't afford to do. Dojop has extensive experience with NComputing solutions in Turkey, and they immediately knew that NComputing virtual desktops would prevent the calamity of lost class time, and save Maral money at the same time.

“Before we had the NComputing system installed, I was spending more time trying to fix the hardware instead of teaching the pupils,” said Mr Necmi Maral of Maral College.

“We are now able to provide our pupils with an effective learning environment.”

MR NECMI MARAL
MARAL COLLEGE

Top marks for NComputing

NComputing virtual desktops share the excess power of standard computers and make computing simple and affordable. You save money by sharing the cost of a single computer among multiple users. Every user’s keyboard, monitor, and mouse connect to the shared computer through a small and very durable NComputing access device. The access device itself has no CPU, memory, or moving parts—so it’s rugged, reliable, and easy to deploy and maintain. Each pupil retains their own settings, applications, and data files, so their experience is just like it would be if they were working at an independent PC. But with only one computer for each ten or more student stations, the number of systems to maintain becomes eminently affordable. This benefit alone instantly reduced Maral’s acquisition and support costs.

“We knew straight away that the NComputing solution would be the most effective solution to Maral College’s performance and budget requirements, while giving them a quick return on investment,” said Mustafa Canoglu of Dojop.

Maral College uses two servers running HyperV. The two servers support 60 NComputing L-series virtual desktops. Maral College also installed a single PC and 10 X550 virtual desktops in a multimedia lab. With no moving parts or storage on the access devices, repairs are rare and the ongoing maintenance costs are minimal.

10 out of 10 for budget management

The college saved money not only on the initial purchase, but also on ongoing costs. A typical PC consumes approximately 115 watts of power, whereas the L-series consume 5 watts each and the X-series just 1 watt. The devices are half the size of a paperback book, generate almost no heat, and make no noise. The result is a comfortable work and study environment and lower electricity bills.

“Since implementing the NComputing solution, we are now able to provide our pupils with an effective learning environment without the worry of the system breaking down halfway through the lessons. They have freed up our teachers from having to provide technical support and we have already realized savings of 70% on operating costs and 80% on our energy bills,” concluded Mr Maral.

