

*Low-cost computing for education*

## Thai School Learns To Save On IT Costs

Thepsalaprachasan School in the northern city of Nakhon Sawan, Thailand sees 1,500 students and 70 teachers passing through its gates daily. The public secondary school faced a challenge that's all too familiar—too few computers at too high a cost. Only 25 computers were available in each computer lab, but the average class size is 40 students.



*Thepsalaprachasan students enjoy class work in their new computer lab.*

### Cash Crunch Hampers E-Learning Plans

School director Mr. Prasert Sittiton knew that the school needed to improve computer access for both staff and students. "We wanted to take advantage of the computer as a teaching tool. Teachers can create presentations and make use of other computer programs to teach," said Mr. Sittiton.

Yet maintaining the current facilities was already proving too much for the school. With no IT personnel in house, maintaining the current facilities was already proving too much for the school. The budget got so tight that the school took out bank loans and the students' parents chipped in to help fund the outsourced maintenance and upgrades needed for the computer labs.

### Making The Smarter Choice

NComputing distributor Siam Network & Computer recommended the NComputing solution when they heard about Thepsalaprachasan School's woes. NComputing virtual desktops enable schools to share the excess power of their PCs with up to 11 students, dramatically lowering PC acquisition costs.

The NComputing solution works because today's PCs are so powerful that the vast majority of applications only use a small fraction of the computer's capacity. NComputing's hardware and vSpace™ virtualization software tap this unused capacity so that it can be simultaneously shared by multiple students. Each student's monitor, keyboard, 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. By spreading out the cost of the shared computer, schools can provide up to five times the number of stations for the same budget.

### Challenge

Provide more computer access to staff and students, but maintain tight budgets based on loans to enable the project.

### Solution

Deploy NComputing X-series virtual desktops in computer labs

### Impact

Built three new computing labs with the same budget that was originally allocated for just two labs. Generated a surplus of existing PCs, which were redeployed to the library and registration departments.

### Partner

Driven and supported by Siam Network & Computer, NComputing distributor for Thailand.

“We knew that Thepsalaprachasan was spending a lot on the ongoing maintenance and upgrade of their computers. With the NComputing solution, only the shared PC needs to be reinstalled or upgraded each time. This is a much smarter way for the school to manage the computers with their limited resources,” said Mr. Wichai Amatamahutana, managing director of Siam Network & Computer.

## Maximizing Resources

The school purchased NComputing X-series virtual desktops and deployed them in their computer labs. By choosing the NComputing solution, the school managed to build three new computer labs with the budget they had originally set aside for just two labs. The small size of the NComputing access devices also means that the labs are now tidier and more spacious.

“Due to the low cost and the easy installation and maintenance of the NComputing solution, we don’t worry about the maintenance and upgrade of our computers like we used to. We plan to use NComputing’s solution again. With the cost savings, we can also lower the maintenance charges that are being collected from the parents,” said Mr Sittiton.

After setting up the labs with NComputing virtual desktops, the school maximized its resources by deploying its surplus computers for use in the library and registration department.

“With NComputing we don’t worry about maintenance and upgrade of our computers like we used to.”

Mr. Prasert Sittiton  
Director  
Thepsalaprachasan School



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