SUCCESS STORY

AMG India International

Thousands of underprivileged children in Andhra Pradesh, India, get access to modern education

AMG India International is a non-government organization that is tirelessly working towards providing the basic essentials of life, such as education, to the less privileged sections of the society. Its endeavor to deploy NComputing to enable access to modern education for thousands of underprivileged students is also a step in the same direction.

Challenge

AMG needed a low-cost shared computing solution that would be well within its budget and incurred less operational costs.

Solution

AMG deployed the *NComputing* **X-series** solution that helped the organization install a much larger computing infrastructure within its stipulated budget.

Results

- Up to 50 percent savings in hardware acquisition cost
- Up to 90 percent savings in power and power backup costs
- The annual operational costs have got reduced by up to 75 percent.
- Centralized management of the IT infrastructure helps save time of the IT staff

The need for a larger, affordable computing infrastructure

AMG India International is a registered Christian social service non-profit organization that is incessantly working towards empowering the underprivileged children of Andhra Pradesh and the adjoining states by providing them with the much needed educational services so that they grow up to become self sufficient. Through its eight residential schools located in the Guntur/Chilakaluripet districts of Andhra Pradesh, India, AMG helps more than 100,000 poor, needy and destitute people situated in Andhra Pradesh and adjoining states of Orissa and Tamil Nadu.

AMG's management well realized that enabling access to modern education could help effectively prepare the next generation of workers for jobs, especially in a service driven economy like India. However, AMG's existing computing infrastructure was inadequate to service the educational needs of students studying in its various school campuses. Thus, the organization decided to expand its computing infrastructure to provide computing access to its large student base. Being a non-profit organization, the organization needed a cost-effective solution that would fit into their budget.

NComputing emerged as the clear choice

AMG chose *NComputing* **X-series** for vSpace—an end-to-end desktop and application virtualization solution comprising **X-series** thin client access devices and **vSpace** server virtualization software—to expand their computing power. In each of the five AMG labs, around 30 workstations are running merely on 5 PCs. So, there are less PCs and minimal power backup infrastructure to maintain and support. The solution has also helped AMG save valuable desk space and power as the *NComputing* access devices consume as less as 1 watt of electricity.

Success story: AMG India International

"We are glad to have a modern, scalable, costeffective and energyefficient IT infrastructure that has helped us to enhance the student learning environment in our campuses by leaps and bounds."

Mr. Danam Bethu
IT Manager, AMG
India International

Deployment Architecture

- Virtual Desktop Thin Clients: *NComputing* **X-series** thin client access devices
- Host: ACER Veriton - M200- G31, Intel Core 2 Duo E7500 processor (2.93 GHz), 4GB DDR2 RAM, 320 GB HDD, DVD writer, 100 mbps LAN environment
- Peripherals: Keyboards and optical mice, TFT monitor
- Software and applications: **vSpace** desktop and application virtualization software, Windows XP 2003, MS-Office, PageMaker, Photoshop, other educational software, Internet applications

Since the *NComputing* solution was compatible with the existing IT infrastructure of AMG, it allowed them to re-use and extend the lifespan of their existing PCs.

Now, in each AMG lab, a very small and rugged thin client access device connects each user's monitor, keyboard and mouse to the host PC running **vSpace** server software. Since the access device does not have a CPU, memory or movable parts, it is durable and easy to maintain. Overall, the solution has helped AMG to reduce the hardware cost by up to 50 percent, maintenance cost by up to 75 per cent and electricity consumption by up to 90 per cent.

Achieving more with less

Mr K.V. Rao, Director, Cluster Infotech, an *NComputing* partner, said, "AMG was looking for a costeffective solution to expand its computing infrastructure and *NComputing*'s desktop virtualization solution fitted the needs of the organization like a glove. The solution was easy to deploy, required very little maintenance and was well within AMG's budget. Additional savings were recorded on power as the solution reduced the number of PCs required in each lab. The rugged nature of the access devices reduced the need for air conditioning. All these factors helped drastically bring down the TCO (total cost ownership). Since each *NComputing* lab can be centrally managed, the time required to support and maintain the lab is also minimal."

By deploying *NComputing*'s desktop virtualization solution, AMG has successfully achieved its goal of providing quality education to a growing number of students. *NComputing* has provided AMG the flexibility to scale up its computing facilities to support additional users. With this, AMG has been able to integrate technology into its classrooms, and provide a wholesome teaching-learning experience to teachers and students. In the first phase, AMG has installed the *NComputing* solution in five out of its eight schools.

The management of AMG is happy with their decision to choose and deploy *NComputing*. "Installing *NComputing*'s affordable and green computer labs in our schools has made a huge difference to how we function today. We are glad to have a modern, scalable, cost-effective and energy-efficient IT infrastructure that has helped us to enhance the student learning environment in our campuses by leaps and bounds," said Mr. Danam Bethu, IT Manager, AMG India International.

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