

Low-cost computing for manufacturing

Furniture manufacturer assembles efficient computing solution

Challenge

Streamline computer maintenance in the corporate office to eliminate viruses and unauthorized files, and provide rugged computers that could withstand the harsh manufacturing environment in the factory.

Solution

Install NComputing L-series virtual desktops in the office to improve manageability and additional virtual desktops on the factory floor able to survive the harsh environment.

Impact

Saw significant cost savings without compromising the users' computing experience. Reduced maintenance costs due to rugged NComputing access devices, even in a factory environment.

Partner

Siam Network & Computer, an NComputing distributor for Thailand, supported the Modernform deployment.

Modernform Group is a Thai conglomerate that manufactures office and residential furniture for both domestic and international markets. Its centralized IT department provides computer access and support to users in all nine divisions of the corporation, from the sales and marketing offices to the factory floor.



Office staff enjoy the reliability of the NComputing L-series.

Rebuilding an inefficient IT network

With many diverse users to support, the Modernform IT team found that it spent too much time maintaining the computer infrastructure. The company had a dangerous virus problem and many users were saving unnecessary data on their computers. The company had even hired additional technical staff to support users with computer problems.

During a department meeting for a computer replacement project, the IT team assessed the needs of the various user groups and realized that most of the corporate users were using office applications and some web-based applications in their work. The factory was transitioning from a paper-based instruction set to a web-based ERP system that allowed users to enlarge diagrams to better understand the task. These users required rugged machines that could withstand the hot and dusty environment that can easily cause computers to malfunction.

“The system works well, and it’s convenient for us to maintain and monitor several users on a single machine. This reduces our tasks as everything can be done from a single point.”

MR. SOMPOCH PHONGSAI
ASSISTANT MANAGER
PRODUCTION PLANNING
MODERNFORM GROUP

One solution designed for many end users

Siam Network & Computer Co., Ltd. (SNC) introduced the NComputing solution to the Modernform IT team. The NComputing solution is based on a simple fact: today’s computers are so powerful that the vast majority of applications only use a small fraction of their capacity. NComputing’s virtualization software and hardware tap this unused capacity so that multiple users can simultaneously share it. Each user’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 is rugged, durable, and easy to deploy and maintain.

Installing the NComputing solution solved Modernform’s infrastructure concerns. The rugged devices withstand the heat and dust of the factory floor, eliminating paper-based instructions on the production line while improving the quality of work. In the corporate office, maintenance and support time was reduced as the same number of users are supported by fewer computers, which are securely managed to eliminate viruses and unauthorized data.

“It’s a win-win situation as it meant that Modernform did not need to buy new computers for every user. NComputing L-series virtual desktops cost less than a new computer so they saved money while solving their problems,” said Mr. Wichai Amatamahutana, managing director of SNC.

Streamlined IT maintenance throughout the company

“By putting multiple users on each shared computer, our users have found that there’s no difference in performance compared to what they had before. The system works well, and it’s convenient for us to maintain and monitor several users on a single machine. This reduces our tasks as everything can be done from a single point,” explained Mr. Sompoch Phongchai, assistant manager for production planning at Modernform.

Modernform plans to increase the number of NComputing virtual desktops throughout its factories. The company has also identified new uses for the technology, including information kiosks in its showroom and trainee workstations in its seminar room.

