

Preserving creative instruction during the pandemic:

VERDE VDI provides students at Asia Pacific College remote access to powerhouse labs from home.



Challenges

- Lockdowns and stay-at-home orders prevented students from using school computer laboratories.
- Most students do not have home computers capable of running the required software.
- Cloud-based solutions were prohibitively expensive.

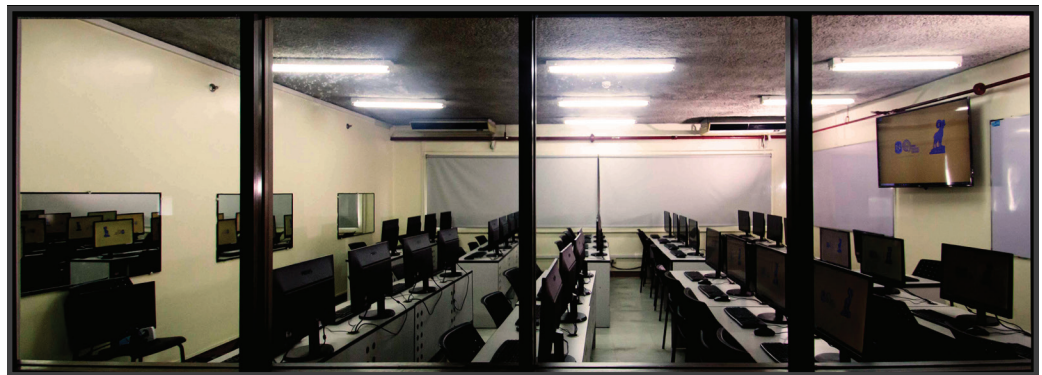
Solution

- VERDE VDI Remote Access by NComputing



Before the pandemic, it was not uncommon to find students staying in the computer labs until closing time. Applications like Photoshop, After Effects, and Premier Pro require capable computers to manipulate and render the pixels—something students generally don't have at home.

When the government instituted lockdowns and home quarantines to contain the spread of COVID19, schools were closed while students stayed home. These events essentially stopped students from continuing their art and video projects. How can students use the resources if they can't physically be in the buildings?



Paradigm-shift required

Before the pandemic, Asia Pacific College ran computer laboratories with specific software licenses on a time-shared use basis. The allocation was one computer per student in each class. The specifications of these computers would depend on the instructed disciplines. Computing laboratories were built to match resources to needs, so idle computing power was not wasted.

Once the pandemic hit, virtual desktops seemed ideal, but existing cloud solutions capable of the workload came with premium pricing—easily exceeding the school's budget. Creative content requires vast amounts of time and effort. Video projects require rendering, a process that soaks up computing resources despite being a mostly unattended process.

“VERDE VDI allowed us to continue instruction during the pandemic and facilitated a paradigm shift that will be beneficial to the students when normality returns.”



Jojo Castillo
Executive Director for
Technical Services
Asia Pacific College

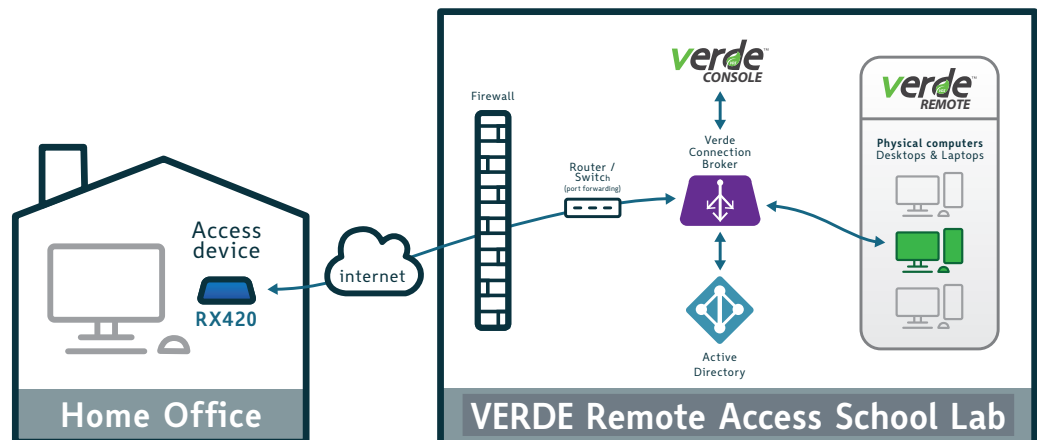
Asia Pacific College (APC) signed up with various cloud-based resources for its computer laboratory requirements. APC established partnerships with companies that provided access to their software and partnered with Microsoft Azure for generic cloud-based desktops to handle everyday computing tasks.

For graphic-intensive deployments, an unmetered desktop virtualization solution was required to accommodate the students' needs for more access than the restricted access previously administered. Acer Veriton computers were set up with access managed by VERDE VDI Remote Access. Students can work directly on those computers remotely from home computers or thin clients without time usage limitations.

Verde VDI Remote Access allows for more hands-on time by the students without being restricted by metered usage. Repurposing existing computers and adding new systems where needed made the system affordable and fast to implement. Most importantly, adoption by the students and administrators was easy and seamless.



VERDE VDI Remote Access architecture:



Supported Access Devices:

- **Thin clients:** RX-RDP, RX420(RDP), RX300
- **Software clients:** VERDE Windows client, LEAF OS

Features:

- Secure remote access end-to-end SSL encrypted traffic between NComputing access device and physical PCs. VPN not required.
- Minimal infrastructure compared to full VDI
- Enable or disable data upload and download.
- Full control of Windows clipboard functionality
- Extensive monitoring and control for IT administrations using VERDE console.
- VERDE Gateway feature to provide an additional layer of security and control for remote access (optional).