



## KEY HIGHLIGHTS

INDUSTRY: EDUCATION



The Peninsula School®

**CHALLENGE**

Constrain server sprawl while implementing a scalable infrastructure that could manage up to 1,100 notebooks used by students.

**SOLUTION**

VMware Infrastructure enabled the utilization of computing resources to be maximized and create a low-cost, easily maintainable virtual desktop and notebook infrastructure.

**VMWARE AT WORK**

- VMware Infrastructure 3 Enterprise, featuring:
- ESX 3.5
- High Availability
- Distributed Resource Scheduler
- VMotion
- Currently testing VDI and VMware ACE

**DEPLOYMENT ENVIRONMENT**

- ESX Server running on three Dell PowerEdge 2950 servers each with two 3GHz quad-core Intel Xeon processors linked to an EMC CX3-10c networked storage system by dual fiber channel
- Guest operating systems: Microsoft Windows Server 2000, Microsoft Windows Server 2003
- Virtualized production applications: Microsoft Exchange, SQL, Symantec antivirus, Microsoft Windows Server Update Services, Lotus Notes, HP switch management software, file and print

*“VMware virtualization has enabled us to create a dynamic, scalable infrastructure within tight cost constraints and deliver a platform for a large-scale deployment of desktop virtualization to staff and students.”*

Craig Wines, Director of Information Technology  
The Peninsula School

## The Peninsula School

The Peninsula School is a private co-educational school in Victoria, Australia, that educates students from kindergarten to Year 12. The school caters for about 1,500 students and 300 staff including non-academic employees.

In 2007, with applications running on 15 servers of diverse age and specification and up to 1,100 staff- and student-run laptops accessing its network, The Peninsula School faced problems supporting demand. “A tight school budget meant a proposed new data center to accommodate server sprawl was well down the list,” said Craig Wines, Director of IT, The Peninsula School. “We also faced an expensive end-of-lifecycle renewal for our servers, so we needed an alternative infrastructure strategy.”

VMware partner Thomas Duryea Consulting proposed an environment that combined VMware server consolidation with EMC networked storage. In late 2007/early 2008 The Peninsula School consolidated its infrastructure to 14 production virtual machines running on three physical servers. The school is also evaluating VMware’s ACE virtualization product to streamline its notebook administration ahead of a likely full rollout in late 2008/early 2009. “Using ACE, we can quickly provision a virtualized environment regardless of whether a student is issued a notebook by the school or brings their own,” said Wines. “We are already testing VMware desktop virtualization to manage 10 personal computing environments. Virtualization combined with a thin-client architecture means staff can access personal settings across multiple devices and we can manage the environment centrally.”

## Results

- Cut desktop hardware costs by 40%
- Achieved a server consolidation ratio of 5:1
- Enhanced utilization of computing resources from 8-9% to 55%
- Reduced billing preparation from five hours to nine minutes and printing from overnight to two hours
- Reduced overnight backup times from 11.5 hours to three hours
- Lowered real estate requirements from one full rack plus “half a room” to half a rack
- Recorded no unplanned downtime since installation



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