

# SAMARTH VIVIDHLAXI SEVA TRUST

Samarth Vividhlaxi Seva Trust reduces computer lab costs and transforms student experience



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*Dharmesh Vandra, deputy registrar, Samarth Campus, Samarth Vividhlaxi Seva Trust*

## HP CUSTOMER

### CASE STUDY:

HP MultiSeat computing solution reduces computer lab costs and transforms student experience at Samarth Vividhlaxi Seva Trust

### INDUSTRY:

Education

#### OBJECTIVE:

Provide the latest technology to students while lowering power consumption and maintenance costs

#### CHALLENGE:

Limited capital expenditure available along with requirement for fewer additional software licenses

#### IT IMPROVEMENTS:

- Simplifies administration with fewer lab technicians required, saving management costs
- Improves reliability with regular patch management and anti-virus updates, saving maintenance costs
- Increases the number of available terminals, easing backlog of student work

#### BUSINESS BENEFITS:

- Allows students to access their data from any terminal, improving the learning experience and making the Trust more attractive to potential students
- Reduces total cost of ownership by 60 per cent, saving budget for investment elsewhere in the Trust's facilities
- Cuts annual power consumption by 40 per cent, boosting environmental credentials



The Samarth Vividhlaxi Seva Trust, established in 1999, is a charitable education trust based in the Indian state of Gujarat. It runs two further education institutions to Bachelor and Masters level, with courses ranging from Pharmacy to Management.

Its Samarth campus provides a modern learning environment, including hostel accommodation, free Wi-Fi and sports facilities.

#### CHALLENGES IN THE EXISTING DESKTOP ENVIRONMENT

The Trust originally began with 300 desktops. With each desktop needing to be maintained individually, it soon became apparent that managing these was a substantial task on its own. In addition, IT personnel had to constantly keep an eye on the students. "Kids will be kids," says Dharmesh Vandra, deputy registrar, Samarth Campus. "They always want to get away with some mischief or the other. So, we needed more control over the desktops."



Another issue was energy consumption. As power is a scarce resource in Gujarat, power backup is used to run the computers in the lab. These computers require significant cooling, which increases power costs considerably.

The remote location of the institute also meant it was difficult to attract the right calibre of IT staff to manage the growing infrastructure. IT management was a challenge.

Always looking for better ways of delivering IT, the Trust was on the lookout for a more effective way to expand its computer labs. It started looking for an alternative to traditional PCs with a view to increasing the number of computers while maintaining the current level of IT administration resources. At the same time, it wanted to find the most efficient way to manage the desktops; to reduce downtime due to malfunctioning devices and virus attacks. Reduction in power usage, and overall cost savings would be a definite plus for any solution.

*“Because we can now maintain our computer labs with fewer technicians, we save about 20 per cent on lab personnel costs a year.”*

*Hemang Patel, president, Samarth Vividhlaxi Seva Trust.*

#### A TECHNOLOGY-RICH SHARING SOLUTION

The Trust opted for the HP MultiSeat computing solution. This PC sharing solution provides a technology-rich PC experience for every student and extends the student-computing environment. In the Trust’s view, it delivers a familiar and reliable experience of a dedicated PC to multiple users for maximum cost benefit, management and power efficiency. The solution provides the ability to connect as many as ten users from a single, dedicated PC.

HP MultiSeat expanded students’ exposure to technology by delivering a rich, affordable, personalised PC experience for every student. It enabled a standard computer to be shared by multiple users, all of whom have their own customisable desktop. “The result of deploying the MultiSeat solution was an environment that was easier to set up, power, secure, and manage and best of all, easier on our budget,” says Dharmesh Vandra.

The Trust deployed 200 MultiSeat computers powered by 20 desktops. “The energy-efficient solution leverages the excess capacity of a single, reliable HP desktop to deliver a full, personal PC experience to all users; each with their own independent session, monitor, keyboard, and mouse,” explains Apurva Dave, chief executive officer, Innova System (India) Pvt. Ltd.

"MultiSeat gave our teachers absolute control of the desktop," says Vandra. "They are now able to monitor the things that are going on and to make sure students are on track."

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*Apurva Dave, chief executive officer, Innova India.*

From an administrative standpoint, the Trust's two institutes have fewer computers to maintain. "Because we can now maintain our computer labs with fewer technicians, we save approximately 20 per cent on lab personnel costs a year," says Hemang Patel, president, Samarth Vividhlaxi Seva Trust.

#### LOWERS TOTAL COST OF OWNERSHIP BY 60 PER CENT

"A lower capital expenditure coupled by a lower need for licenses such as anti-virus, makes it an ideal solution for an education institution. Followed by lower power and management costs, our total cost of ownership has come down by 60 per cent," says Patel. "We can increase the number of terminals in our labs without increasing our IT budget."

The trust has vastly cut down on per seat power usage, which in turn reduces its carbon footprint. Solid-state accesses devices help reduce environmental heat and noise, further reducing costs for the Trust. "With this solution, we have reduced our energy consumption, which in turn has cut power costs on computer systems by 40 per cent annually," says Patel. "In addition, we now need less air conditioning to keep the lab cooled."

The solution was not only easy to implement and manage, it requires no IT expertise for users to get started. Seats could be added with simple plug-and-play USB devices. The trust was thrilled with increased uptime offered by the solution along with out-of-the-box simplicity for multiple users.

#### LATEST TECHNOLOGY FOR STUDENTS

With the HP MultiSeat solution, the Trust is providing more technology in the hands of students, easily and at affordable costs. Each student now has a customisable desktop that gives him or a personalised PC experience. Students simply plug in their individual access devices to the shared PC and they instantly have a rich, personalised PC experience.

## CUSTOMER SOLUTION AT A GLANCE:

### PRIMARY HARDWARE

- MultiSeat computers



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