



On-line Copy & Print Payment Solution University of Birmingham



Objective

The University of Birmingham, including their medical college wanted to significantly improve their print and copy facilities for all staff particularly in their libraries. At the same time, it was essential that across all sites they reduced their costs and wastage for both paper and consumables.

In addition, the University wished to integrate these facilities into their existing smart-card systems for payment & cost allocation, this in turn had security implications, particularly for the medical departments.

The ICS Solution

ICS recommended an **on-line solution**, networking all the printers and copiers and replacing their card readers with superior MB20 terminals. These afford users total accountability and security. Every job is trackable, meaning all confidential documents have a 'paper-trail', literally.

ICS installed this **integrated solution**, fitting new hardware & software. This addressed all the agreed objectives and simultaneously provided improved management reporting and auditing capability.

The new printing devices accept payment from the existing magnetic strip cards and MIFARE™ cards, but additional security was added to allow a card to be 'blocked' should it be stolen or lost. Staff and students can 'top-up' their card at payment kiosks and view the balance on their account.

Outcome

The new solution

- has greatly improved the printing and copy facilities
- is easy to use - and no new payment structure was required
- provides accounting & audit reports, increasing management control & security
- allows users to check documents before printing, reducing wasted output
- is easier for staff to manage, monitor and control

The University has found that staff and students alike have become more 'print/copy cost aware' and have naturally reduced their usage - good for them, good for the University and good for the environment.

"We have seen our paper output and costs reduced since the terminals were installed."

**Will Cooper, Information Services Manager,
University of Birmingham**



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