

Capital City Academy Photocopy & Print Payment Solution with Smartcards.



Case Study



Location:

Capital City Academy, Doyle Gardens.

Solutions Package:

Hardware: Monitor PC20 Card Readers, and a Monitor AL4100 Cash Value Loader.

Software: Pcounter PRO Print & Photocopy Management Software and Pcounter XPR Reporting Software.



Objectives:

Capital City Academy needed to install a fully networked smartcard photocopy and printing control solution. The system to be implemented needed to manage all print and photocopy traffic in order for Capital City to monitor and control all operational activity.

To keep costs low, it was important the new technology could be integrated to work with the existing student and staff ID smartcards.

To reduce queuing, the new system would need to be comprehensive, quick and simple to use and allow the end user greater flexibility in choice.

Requirement:

Student ID smartcards were used for access control and cashless catering. Capital City Academy didn't want its students to carry around numerous cards for different applications.

The Academy wanted to store all of their management applications on to a single card. Students could then use their existing ID cards to access the printing and photocopying system.

The print and copy control system needed to be cost effective and reduce paper wastage in order for Capital City Academy to recoup lost revenues.

Capital City Academy required a system that could be easily managed and would reduce queuing times at the printers and photocopiers. The new system must be robust, secure, easy to operate and reliable as it will be in continual use by students and members of staff.

Solution:

ICS installed Pcounter PRO Copy and Print management software to monitor and report on all copy and print activity. The system consisted of 7 Monitor PC20 smart-card control units which work along side the Pcounter PRO software and Pcounter XPR Reporting software.

The PC20 terminals are accessed via the pre-existing student ID smartcards. Once a smartcard has been swiped and verified the user is able to access their work from the printers and photocopiers.

The user can log off and onto the network without printing their outstanding jobs; these can be collected at a later date from any networked printer in the Academy using the pull print capability. The document will stay in the print queue until it has been printed or deleted, this has allowed for greater flexibility for the user.

The Pcounter PRO management and Pcounter XPR reporting systems provide Capital City Academy with the means to account for student, staff and departmental usage for total budgetary control. Total accountability has vastly reduced paper wastage and misuse whilst improving cost efficiency.





"The new system from ICS is fantastic, it has made the job of photocopying and printing so much easier as it is flexible and much quicker to use."

**Ms Foster,
Administrator.**



Solution Continued:

Printing and photocopying has been integrated to work with the student's ID cards, which are also used for access control and catering. Each student has £4.00 pre-loaded on their card at the start of each term. If the student then runs out of credit they can 'top up' their cards using the Monitor AL4100 cash value loader. The solution does especially well in that it is quick and easy to use. Queuing times for print jobs have been reduced since the user can send a document to print, but is not obliged to print the document immediately.

The AL4100 is a self-service, revaluing station that enables the end user to manually add cash into their own accounts.

The system logs users on to the software once they have swiped their ID cards through the terminal. The AL4100 accepts coin payment.

An AL4300 Value Loader will accept coin and note payment and is available with a keyboard.

The AL4300 also acts as a card activation station. Students can link a new ID card to their account without the need for staff intervention.

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