CASE STUDY

University of California Los Angeles UCLA

Globally Recognized Education Facility

Client: UCLA

The University of California Los Angeles is renowned as one of the world's great research universities, and lists at number 11 in London's Times Higher Education rankings (2010--2011). The UCLA faculty includes Nobel Laureates, Pulitzer Prize winners, multiple MacArthur fellows and scores of national academy members.

They have almost 40,000 students at UCLA, roughly 27,000 undergraduates and 13,000 graduate and professional students in 163 buildings spread across 419 acres of land is UCLA's primary purpose as a public research university is the creation, dissemination, preservation and application of knowledge for the betterment of our global society.

Project Background

The UCLA Library service encompasses thirteen libraries spread across campus. Within each library, banks of public terminals are available to students and provide them access to the Universities Library Catalog of digital publications, journals, papers and other educational resources that students need to complete their studies, there are 250 public terminals in total, serving tens of thousands of students annually.

> *"The new computers in Young Research Library are absolutely amazing. They are honestly the best part of the renovation in my opinion. Better computers was the one thing that library truly needed."*
>
> UCLA Student Feedback

The Challenge

The challenge was to provide a consistent desktop environment to students and serve a very large pool of names users desktops using a much smaller pool of concurrently running instances.

UCLA wanted a cost--effective solution that was easy to manage, easy to support and capable of handling a high turnover of students on a daily basis.

After considering alternatives, including internally hosting virtual desktops, UCLA chose the IronOrbit Desktops--on--Demand service -- a fully managed and hosted virtual desktop service, powered by the IronOrbit DaaS Engine.

The IronOrbit DaaS Engine serves thousands of non--persistent desktops to a much larger pool of named users, delivering persistent bookmarks, applications and user data, as well as access to course specific journals, publications and research papers.

The Results

- *UCLA students reported dramatically improved user experience*

- *Many users reported that consistent desktop access is critical to their work*

- *Stronger internal security desktops are outside the firewall*

- *UCLA was able to roll out service in days without burdening lab IT services*

- *Deliver the service at minimal cost of less than $1/day*

Project Highlights

Challenge:

Acquire desktop solution to:
• Provide safe web access
• Tight security guidelines
• Enable secure business and social use of Web
• Quick deployment and minimal cost

Solution:

IronOrbit's Desktops on Demand™ service delivered as a fully managed hosted service, powered by the IronOrbit DaaS Engine

Desktops on Demand™
• Disposable virtual desktops
• Fast login times
• Good WAN user experience
• Good Multimedia UX
• High--Availability, Low cost
• Reliable 24/7 service

Deployment Environment:
• Servers with SSD drives
• VMware ESXi
• Access via library public terminals in 13 libraries

About Us

IronOrbit is part of the SACA Technologies group of companies, a family of IT businesses specializing in cloud computing, networking, virtualization and managed IT.

In 2003, SACA's leadership noticed an increase in demand for cloud-hosted desktops, servers and applications. Recognizing the importance that cloud computing would play in the future, our leadership founded a new enterprise dedicated exclusively to cloud services. That enterprise was IronOrbit, one of the world's premier suppliers of cloud-hosted IT infrastructure.

At IronOrbit, we're committed to delivering cloud services that go above and beyond. We aim to take your IT beyond the cloud and into orbit, with the most powerful, comprehensive and flexible services in the industry. This ethos is reflected in our business name, which was inspired by our commitment to truly "out of this world" service. From services to support, everything we do revolves around you, the client.

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