

success story



“Already we are seeing the benefits of the document management, collaboration and broadcast components of the Microsoft Solution for Intranets.”

Michael Lau, District Technology Training Manager,
Tracy Unified School District, California

challenge

Tracy Unified School District was looking for the right technology to support better collaboration among groups of teachers, administrators and the families whose educational needs they serves.

solution

HP Services was engaged to implement a customer document management solution built with Microsoft SharePoint Portal Server.

impact

- Increased productivity — less time spent on paperwork leaves more time to focus on core administrative and educational tasks.
- Improved collaboration — new tools for document management, along with video broadcast capabilities, promote increased information sharing.
- Faster time-to-solution — proven Microsoft expertise provided by HP Services accelerates deployment.

"What we've accomplished would not have been possible without HP Services. HP comes in with a wealth of knowledge and experience that helps us speed the time to solution."

Michael Lau, District Technology Training Manager,
Tracy Unified School District, California

Intranet portal leaves more time for learning

"We're looking to foster collaboration at every level for our teachers' and administrators," says Michael Lau, district technology training manager for the Tracy Unified School District, located in California's San Joaquin Valley. "We want our staff to spend less time in meetings and expend less effort on record keeping and document tracking, so they can devote more of their energy to online collaboration among different schools in the district, within the teachers' community, and between teachers and administrators, with everyone assured easy anywhere, anytime access to the most current information."

Custom Microsoft SharePoint Portal ends human resources paper chase

TUSD recently moved into newer, albeit smaller, administrative offices — and that meant looking for a digital home for more than 32,000 documents accumulated in 87 years of record keeping by the district's Human Resources (HR) department.

"We've worked with HP Services to implement a customized intranet portal solution based on Microsoft SharePoint Portal Server," explains Sara Windsor, senior network engineer with TUSD. "HP's solution architect helped us determine the best way to organize volumes of hard-copy employee records that are now being scanned into the SharePoint Portal Server system to produce image documents."

The portal solution includes document searching and retrieval, document versions, check-in, check-out and subscription capabilities. In addition, HP customized a digital dashboard interface to enable easy integration with other district information systems.

"This document management portal solution enables us to categorize, access and maintain Human Resources records that much faster," adds Lau. "It's boosted the operational efficiency of our administrative department."

more uses for intranet portal

TUSD is expanding the rollout of the SharePoint Portal Server beyond the administrative offices. "The intranet portal gives us a way to build online communities within our district and to make sure the right information gets to the right people," observes Lau. "Teachers, for example, can subscribe to relevant documents, and publish and share information among their community."

"We've also customized a Web part that streamlines jobs handled by our publication center," says Windsor. "Teachers can submit a job for copying and printing online, such as a test or classroom handout, then receive notification by e-mail when the job is done and ready to pick up."



next in the technology curriculum: adding broadcast capabilities

As part of its plan to build a total Microsoft Solution for Intranets, TUSD is piloting the Microsoft Windows Media Broadcast Edition component.

"We're very excited about implementing the broadcast capabilities," says Lau. "We have many possibilities in mind. . . We can set up an on-demand area within the intranet portal where staff will be able to view content when it best suits their busy schedules. We'd use this for distance learning, staff development and teacher enrichment programs. We also envision creating a production station in the superintendent's office, allowing live delivery from the superintendent. And we're thinking of setting up a portable production station — a laptop complete with all the bells and whistles needed to produce high-quality live content — that would then travel around the district for live broadcasts of special events."

SharePoint Team Services supports innovative approach to curriculum development

TUSD is also piloting the Microsoft SharePoint Team Services component of the Microsoft Solution for Intranets.

"We're looking to use this project-based collaboration tool to enable our teachers to collaborate across school boundaries," says Windsor. "For example, teachers at the elementary, middle school and high school could work together to prepare and present a history lesson plan that builds from one grade level to the next."

"With HP's help, we're spending less time with paperwork and less time in meetings. At the same time, we're working more efficiently and, most importantly, we're working together like never before."

Michael Lau, District Technology Training Manager,
Tracy Unified School District, California

at a glance

- San Joaquin Valley of California
- 14,000 students and 1,500 staff members
- Mission: "To empower students to reach their fullest potential, and participate as responsible and productive citizens in a continuously changing world."
- <http://www.tracy.k12.ca.us>

technology solution highlights

- systems: HP ProLiant 8000 server, now DL760 ProLiant ML530 dual 1 GHz server with 2 GB RAM and 300 GB storage capacity
- operating systems: Windows 2000 Advanced Server, Windows XP
- solutions: Microsoft Solution for Intranets, including Microsoft SharePoint Portal Server, SharePoint Team Services, Microsoft Windows Media Broadcast Edition, Microsoft SQL Server and Microsoft Office XP
- services: HP Services provides access, design, piloting and implementation services for the Microsoft Solution for Intranets and customized Web parts for the SharePoint Portal Server solution

HP advantage: services key to success of intranet solution

"HP's close working relationship with Microsoft also works to our benefit. "They are obviously committed to knowledge sharing. After helping us assess requirements and implement solution components, they also passed on a wealth of information on how to maintain a solution and how to deal with growth and changes down the road," concludes Lau.

contact

For more information please contact: Helen McNeil at Helen.McNeil@hp.com or visit: www.hp.com/solutions/activeanswers/sharepoint

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