



Canon Solutions Case Study

Learning a New Way to Print

Libertyville School District



EDUCATION (K-12)

CANON SOLUTIONS

Canon imageRUNNER® ADVANCE systems and uniFLOW

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Nestled in northeastern Illinois about 35 miles north of Chicago, the idyllic town of Libertyville reflects all-American values: a picturesque and family-oriented community, a quaint and prosperous downtown, and a commitment to quality, goal-oriented education. Libertyville Elementary District 70 was recently recognized with a 2012 Bright A+ Award for its high level of academic performance and is ranked in the top 5% of Illinois elementary school districts.

Preparing the next generation for the future is an important goal among residents, yet schools across the nation are faced with demonstrating better results using fewer resources in light of budget reductions at state and federal levels. In Libertyville, the community rose to the challenge using a modern spin on an American classic — technology and ingenuity.





CUSTOMER ISSUES

“Our primary goal at the Libertyville School District is to foster a culture of continuous improvement,” said Dr. Guy Schumacher, Superintendent. “We place an emphasis on leveraging technology to enhance the learning process for students. The children and adolescents in our community are comfortable using computers and mobile devices, and respond positively to an educational environment that reflects their interactions in daily life.”

Libertyville School District is progressive when it comes to adopting proven technologies, and it has built an infrastructure that utilizes interactive whiteboards and Apple® computers throughout the entire district. To support its document output needs, it previously utilized a fleet of stand-alone printers and networked copiers throughout each school and the administrative office. But, over time, the entire infrastructure had become difficult and more costly to manage.

“Document output costs were spiraling out of control. Our staff had to locate, install, and configure the proper print drivers for each device, as well as understand its use and capabilities,” said Dr. Kurt Valentin, Associate Superintendent of Finance and Operations. “The IT department was responsible for supporting a variety of different copiers and stand-alone printers throughout the district, as well as maintaining consumables such as paper, inks, and toners. In the end, absorbing our print expenses—without proper justification—became too much to bear.”

Faced with shrinking budgets, Libertyville School District recognized that document production costs going forward would need to be more transparent. But when it came to gauging what was necessary versus what was not, the lack of granularity precluded it from making informed decisions. The district also sought to implement a more secure print environment, restrict access at the device level to specific users, track usage throughout the entire district, and make it easier to output documents across all managed devices.



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CANON SOLUTION OVERVIEW AND COMPONENTS

Libertyville School District required a solution that would leverage its existing technology investment, fulfill its needs for enhanced information security, and provide control over device access across multiple locations to reduce costs and maximize productivity. This is no small feat for organizations, large or small, especially in a distributed environment that was committed to an Apple-based infrastructure.

Canon's innovative product line-up provided the Libertyville School District with the answers it needed. The highly regarded Canon imageRUNNER ADVANCE Series of document imaging systems met the needs for high-quality output within a secure print environment, maximum uptime, and minimal administration. During the implementation, the number of stand-alone desktop printers was reduced by 50%, and 16 imageRUNNER ADVANCE multifunction devices were installed across their six sites.

The district had already deployed a smart card infrastructure to credential each of the 350 staff members and outside school groups that needed to use the devices. From a secure print perspective, this provided an architecture that could identify individual users and determine the device access and privilege levels for each according to evolving internal policies. On the larger scale, Canon's uniFLOW solution facilitates overall device access, reporting, and follow-me printing. Users can print documents to the uniFLOW server and then easily claim their output when and where it's needed from any managed system by swiping their badge and choosing the document to print. This feature simultaneously increases information security and helps reduce waste by ensuring that the person is physically present at the device at the time of output.

"Among our chief concerns was knowing 'who' was printing 'what' and 'where' while attempting to contain costs throughout the district," continued Dr. Valentin. "Since implementing Canon imageRUNNER ADVANCE devices and the uniFLOW solution, there's been a marked 50% decrease in overall expenses and a 20% decrease in overall print volume, resulting in significant savings to the district and to taxpayers. Beyond that, our staff can securely claim printouts on demand within any of our locations. This has reduced waste; increased accountability at the district, departmental, and individual levels; and fostered a greater sense of privacy regarding potentially sensitive information."

From an IT perspective, Canon technology has streamlined maintenance and support. The universal print driver that's installed on each device automatically recognizes the system and understands its capabilities. This achievement helps eliminate the need for users or IT staff to reconfigure their system for each output device, so they can be more productive. It's also provided the means to produce real-time reports on usage for increased accountability.

"Our relationship with Canon has been great, and we feel that they have the best interests of our district at heart," continued Dr. Guy Schumacher. "Each year we've seen continuous improvements and excellent recommendations that have helped us save money and improve our operational efficiency within the district. Bottlenecks at the printers are a thing of the past, print volume has been significantly reduced, and our staff has embraced the use of digital documents in their daily activities. All this has helped improve the teaching experience, while making our campus as 'green' as it can be."

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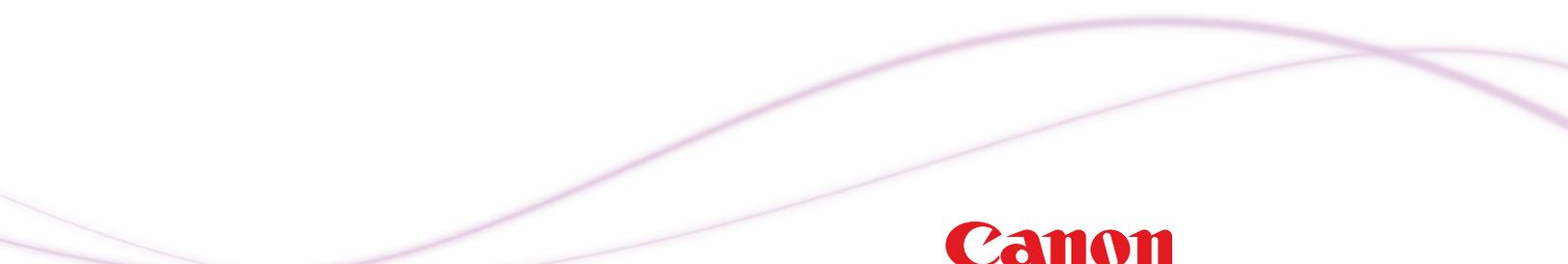


SUMMARY

Technology has proven itself to be a powerful component in the educational process. It can also provide benefits in reducing costs, increasing document security, and providing control over access to information where and when it's needed.

For Libertyville School District, Canon's products and solutions have proven themselves invaluable when it comes to:

- Reigning in the cost of document production and minimizing waste, resulting in an overall 50% decrease in document production costs.
- Eliminating 50% of the stand-alone desktop printers used throughout the district.
- Providing visibility into "who" is printing "what" and "where."
- Reducing IT burdens in regard to support and maintenance.
- Producing documents on any managed device within the district.
- Increasing security by releasing documents after the individual has been authenticated at the device.



Canon
*image*ANYWARE

1-800-OK-CANON
www.usa.canon.com

Canon U.S.A., Inc.
One Canon Park
Melville, NY 11747

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