

Crescent Girls' School, Singapore

Case Study

Students get to do so much more than just typing or what they can do on paper.



"Fujitsu believes in bringing technology to the people. Together with Crescent Girls' School, we bring interactivity to the classroom and put mobility into the hands of the student. Learning and teaching simply becomes more interesting through the use of a Tablet PC."

Mr. Raymond Foo, Associate Director, Marketing, Fujitsu PC Asia Pacific

Crescent Girls' School (CGS) is one of the first schools in Singapore to participate in the Ministry of Education's IT Masterplan to enhance teaching and learning through the use of technology. Through the years, CGS' innovative and extensive use of technology has earned itself a reputation as an IT demo school.

Following the onset of its m-learning @ Crescent initiative, CGS has evaluated and been convinced that the Tablet PC best suit their vision of personalised learning through the use of technologies.

Mr. Gary Tan, Dean of Educational Development, CGS, explains, "We decided to tap into the potential that Tablet PCs offer, especially when it allows students to do so much more than just typing or what they can do on paper." The Tablet PC is an ideal tool in a school environment, according to Mr. Tan, "Its inking capability integrated with the rich resources custom-developed by teachers and web resources created a digital curriculum that suits our constructionist philosophy for learning."

To choose the correct Tablet PC was no easy feat because apart from functionality, the Tablet PC must be durable - to sustain wear and tear, portable - light enough for mobility, and reliable - requiring minimal servicing. Fujitsu's Tablet PC was selected because it met all their stringent requirements.

Fun @ School

CGS has equipped 37 teachers with the Stylistic ST5010 and 355 students with the LifeBook T3010, allowing them to integrate Tablet PCs in teaching and learning. The Stylistic ST5010, a thin-and-light slate form factor Tablet PC featuring rich multimedia functions and a quick touch panel, delivers unsurpassed level of productivity and performance required by teachers. Whilst students have also been learning with the LifeBook T3010 - a convertible Tablet offering the comfort and ease of a traditional notebook combined with the versatility of a Tablet PC.

Armed with Tablet PCs the size of their geography textbooks, the Secondary One students can carry them everywhere they go - from classrooms, to library, laboratories and even home, thereby bringing the concept of m-learning to life.

"It is so much easier to bring a Tablet PC around. We can get our homework done anytime, anywhere - in the garden, canteen or even along the corridor. The tablet's inking capabilities converts our handwriting into text, thus saving us precious time," says Ms. Jocelyn Chua, CGS student and a Tablet PC convert.

Challenge

To provide a solution for the m-learning initiative at Crescent Girls' School and meet the teaching and learning requirements of portability, performance and wireless connectivity.

Solution

With over a decade of design, engineering and manufacturing expertise, the Fujitsu Stylistic ST5010 and LifeBook T3010 deliver excellent productivity and performance. Both machines deliver the required combination of power and portability to provide CGS with the necessary tools and information to support their learning activities.

Benefits

The thin-and-light slate, Stylistic ST5010 and convertible LifeBook T3010 allow teachers and students the advantage of highly interactive and illustrative methods of learning.



"Our students have been very receptive and adaptive to the Tablet PC technology and this has facilitated access to information tremendously. We have seen an immense shift in classroom dynamics, with more interactivity and student-centred learning," comments Mr. Tan.

"Communication within classes has improved along with productivity and creativity. This is definitely something that we might not have achieved in such a short time with conventional teaching methods alone," he continues.

Microsoft®, another partner in the m-learning initiative, shares the same view about the role of technology in education. Says Mr. Andy Zupsic, Managing Director for Microsoft® Singapore, "We strongly believe in the power of technology as a learning tool for teachers and students and we are very excited to be able to help shape Singapore's education scene, and encourage students and teachers in Singapore to realise their full potential through the use of educational technology."

Providing an Enjoyable Experience with Fujitsu

Fujitsu Tablet PCs not only serve the technical requirements of CGS but also elevate learning to another paradigm thereby bringing a whole new concept to education. "Our ergonomically designed Tablet PCs with a light form factor, long battery life enriched with the latest technology, cater to both the young mobile student, and the modern teacher. We will continue to innovate and help schools and teachers to enhance their cause in education," says Mr. Foo.

Using technology to enhance learning



m-learning Initiative

m-learning @ Crescent is part of the Backpack.Net initiative, a pilot project supported by iDA and Microsoft®. Fujitsu is selected to provide the hardware foundation to enable a new dimension of pen-based interactivity in teaching and learning. The process began two years ago when the principal and teachers evaluated the use of Tablet PCs as a tool to enhance learning and teaching. Once convinced, they arranged for focused group discussions with parents to gauge their receptivity and were happy to note that most of the parents were supportive of the project. Hence the m-learning initiative was born.

22 Generations of Superior Technology and Design

Fujitsu's Tablet PC has come a long way. Since the days of the company's first portable PC, Fujitsu has successfully introduced 22 generations of Tablet PCs to meet customers' requirements.

As early as 1989, Fujitsu partnered Poqet Computer Corporation, to introduce the world's first hand-held - the Poqet PC, a one-pound computer that was fully MS-DOS compatible running at 8MHz. Three years later, seeing a trend in mobility, Fujitsu took over Poqet Computer Corporation and embarked on a hugely successful journey to become the market leader in pen-based computing.

Since then, Fujitsu has continually rolled out pen tablets boasting many of industry's first:

- 1993: First pen tablet to use an integrated wireless LAN and offer four different operating systems.
- 1994: First pen tablet to use a magnesium frame and co-molding and offer Microsoft® Windows® 95 as its operating system.
- 1997: First commercially available pen tablet to run Microsoft® Windows® NT and to use USB ports.
- 1999: First pen tablet to support the Microsoft® Windows® CE H/PC Pro operating system.
- 2000: First pen tablet computer to use a Pentium® III processor and have processing power that was equivalent to a notebook computer.
- 2001: First pen tablet to use Ultra Low Voltage chip and first Pentium® III pen tablet to use Intel® SpeedStep™ Technology.
- 2003: First Tablet PC with indoor/outdoor display.



About Fujitsu

Fujitsu PC Asia Pacific Pte Ltd is the Asia Pacific Regional Headquarters for PC business of Fujitsu Limited, Japan. Its responsibilities include the marketing and sales of a wide range of personal computers for the corporate and end-user markets in the Asia Pacific.

Fujitsu PC Asia Pacific pledges "Built-In Confidence" for every product under its brand name to reassure users of product and service excellence. From high performance components to stringent quality control and professional after-sales service, Fujitsu stands for reliability and satisfaction.