

“By increasing awareness and introducing leaner IT operating practices, including reducing our overall number of devices, we made significant savings facilitating a more sustainable IT infrastructure.”

Simon Proust
Sustainability Project Manager
TAFE New South Wales

FUJITSU Sustainability Benchmark enables TAFE NSW North region to evaluate the sustainability of its IT estate, making savings and becoming more efficient.

At a glance

Country: Australia
Industry: Education
Founded: 1833
Website: tafensw.edu.au

Challenge

TAFE NSW North region identified that it had to improve the management of its IT infrastructure and printers because it was wasting thousands of dollars per month on electricity and paper. The organization wanted a detailed survey of its campuses and recommendations on how to improve.

Solution

Fujitsu carried out its IT Sustainability Benchmark, which involved interviewing relevant stakeholders and focused on five key areas: technology enablement, enterprise and data center, end user computing, metrics, and lifecycle and procurement.

Benefit

- TAFE NSW North region has reduced its printer fleet from 400 devices to 195; slashing energy bills by A\$7.7k and reducing carbon emissions by 8,697kg per year
- The introduction of pull-printing has lowered paper consumption, saving A\$22k per year
- An e-waste policy is now embedded in the organization, ensuring that as few toxins as possible end up in landfill

Customer

Originally established in 1833, Technical and Further Education New South Wales (TAFE NSW) is Australia's largest vocational education and training provider. Annually, the network trains around 500,000 students through campus, workplace, online and distance education. It was established as an independent statutory body under the TAFE Commission Act 1990. Collaboration, diversity and the strong relationships between its campuses contribute to and magnify the value of TAFE NSW and the benefits that it delivers to communities and the economy of NSW.

Products and Services

■ FUJITSU ICT Sustainability Benchmark



Becoming more sustainable

TAFE NSW North region has a relatively mature approach to sustainability, including significant onsite solar capacity, waste management operating systems and implementation of water saving practices. However, the organization finally found the resources and commitment to review the impact of its IT estate and wanted to benchmark its sustainability across the vast geographic span of its campuses.

"There was elementary monitoring of our 3,200 PCs for example, and no mechanism to measure procurement and output efficiency," explains Simon Proust, Sustainability Project Manager, TAFE NSW. "A colleague down south had undertaken a Sustainability Benchmark process and we thought it would help us introduce systematic consistency across all our campuses."

TAFE NSW North region also had an excess of printers which were not being properly monitored. Taking into account the electricity used by printers and PCs left on overnight, across 17 campuses it was wasting huge sums of money as well as producing unnecessary carbon emissions.

"We had no unified approach to the IT estate and wanted to achieve best practice, so we engaged a professional organization to come in, evaluate our inventory and recommend how we could become more responsible," adds Proust. "Fujitsu was keen to work in the education sector and had worked with other TAFEs, so it seemed the perfect fit for what we wanted to achieve."

A clear and accurate assessment

Based on surveys and short-focused interviews with management, the ICT Sustainability Benchmark produces a current state assessment. This includes a benchmark of TAFE's IT sustainability readiness and maturity relative to Fujitsu's database of over 3,000 other organizations across all industry sectors.

Fujitsu identified five criteria and prepared 50 questions for key stakeholders within TAFE NSW North region. The criteria are: technology enablement, enterprise and data center, end user computing, metrics, and lifecycle and procurement.

"Fujitsu spent a week interviewing IT management, IT procurement, IT infrastructure and IT teachers and me in order to benchmark how we manage our IT estate," continues Proust. "They scored us at 45.3 percent. The target for best practice is at least 80 percent, so we clearly had work to do."

Fujitsu came back with a number of steps to improve the sustainability rating, including deploying power management tools and software to slash electricity consumption. It also accurately counted the number of PCs and printers on campus and worked out TAFE's IT energy baseline. This enabled TAFE NSW North region to identify how best to streamline existing equipment.

"Having done the research, Fujitsu came back and held a seminar to help build a strategy for improvement," says Proust. "We set clear milestones for the short, medium and long-term and despite some initial challenges we were able to begin making changes."

A leaner, smarter organization

One of the first tasks that TAFE was able to complete was the rationalization of its printer fleet, from 400 devices to 195. Unsurprisingly, that had an instant impact on energy use and paper consumption, saving the organization A\$30k per year and eliminating nearly 9,000kg of CO₂ emissions.

"We had some buildings with multiple printers which we replaced with a single, multi-function device," comments Proust. "We have also implemented pull-printing, which reduces unnecessary printing and is saving us around A\$22k per year."

By deploying power management policies and Windows 10, TAFE is making further savings because computers now automatically shut-down or go to sleep after 30 minutes of inactivity. This has led to a three percent decrease in energy consumption. Moreover, as part of the ICT benchmark exercise, TAFE surveyed all 3200 PCs and was able to clarify which ones to decommission and how best to streamline the estate.

The benchmark has also helped TAFE NSW North region to understand the importance of an e-waste policy and embedded it into the organization. This ensures that as few toxins as possible end up in landfill. Overall, the partnership with Fujitsu has reduced costs, lowered carbon emissions and introduced efficiency.

"We are a big organization with fairly typical resistance to change so I am delighted we have made such an impact," concludes Proust. "We have already increased our sustainability rating by 3.3 points, outperforming similar Australian institutions for the first time."

FUJITSU

Email: info@au.fujitsu.com

Tel: +61 2 9776 4555

© 2017 Fujitsu and the Fujitsu logo are trademarks or registered trademarks of Fujitsu Limited in Japan and other countries. Other company, product and service names may be trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective owners. Technical data subject to modification and delivery subject to availability. Any liability that the data and illustrations are complete, actual or correct is excluded. Designations may be trademarks and/or copyrights of the respective manufacturer, the use of which by third parties for their own purposes may infringe the rights of such owner.