CrossTec SchoolVue
'Vue' Every Screen, Touch Every Student

CUSTOMER IN FOCUS
Westfield Vocational Technical High School
Manufacturing Technology Department
Westfield, Massachusetts

Using CrossTec SchoolVue to demonstrate AutoCAD Autodesk Inventor in the classroom

Former NetOp School user improves the teaching process with CrossTec SchoolVue

Mr. Clement Fucci is the head of Westfield Vocational Technical High School's manufacturing technology department. About CrossTec SchoolVue he says, "You guys have really done a great job with this product!"

Overview

At Westfield Vocational Technical High School, Mr. Clem Fucci's classes run a lot more smoothly these days after he switched from NetOp School to CrossTec SchoolVue. Instead of encountering technical problems that hampered instruction as they did while using NetOp School, Fucci's manufacturing technology classes working with AutoCAD AutoDesk Inventor can now focus on the important stuff – learning.

"I am very happy with SchoolVue!" Fucci said. "SchoolVue has definitely helped my job."

School Profile

Westfield Vocational Technical High School is located in Westfield, Massachusetts, a city of approximately 40,000 people, according to the 2000 United States Census. In addition to the traditional high school curriculum of English, history, science, and mathematics, students have their pick of twelve vocational programs including automotive technology, culinary arts, electrical wiring, graphic arts, and manufacturing technology.

The manufacturing technology department at WVTHS provides the approximately 50 enrolled students an education in computer-aided drafting/design, mathematics, and other basic engineering skills. In the Computer Aided Manufacturing (CAM) course, students import designs from the preceding Computer Aided Drafting and Design (CADD) course to create toolpath definitions, which are then input into the school's machine shop to create actual parts using materials such as aluminum, brass, and steel.

"In a nutshell, we do everything from art to part and everything in between," said manufacturing technology department head Clement Fucci. "The students design and manufacture everything."

The Problem

The department formerly used NetOp School in the CAM and CADD classes for the purpose of instructing students in the AutoCAD AutoDesk Inventor, FeatureCAM, and Vericut software programs. As teachers demonstrated the programs in class, they wanted to broadcast live images of their screens to students' monitors, but because NetOp School was incompatible with the OpenGL graphics driver, they had to broadcast in bitmap mode, causing the images to be choppy and latent.

The Solution

Fucci decided to make a change. At the beginning of the 2006-2007 school year, the manufacturing technology department began using CrossTec SchoolVue in its CAM and CADD classes. He found the installation process to be "very simple and easy" and has had a similarly seamless experience since due to SchoolVue's high compatibility with the OpenGL graphics driver.

"When I broadcast my screen to students' computers, it's instantaneous," Fucci said. "When I simulate something on my machine, it's very quick on the students' machines. That wasn't the case with NetOp."

Going Forward

Now that Fucci has solved this problem, he can look forward to a productive, successful school year unhampered by technical problems.

"I am very happy with SchoolVue," he said. "It is used in both our day school and business and industry training courses in our area. It makes my life easier because in addition to being the teacher, I am also responsible for maintaining the million-dollar CAD lab that we have. SchoolVue has definitely helped my job."

For more information about CrossTec SchoolVue or to download a free evaluation copy, please visit our Web site at www.CrossTecCorp.com.