



## BELL TECHLOGIX HELPS STUDENTS EXPERIENCE REAL-WORLD TOOLS.

*Preparing students for careers in most professions today requires hands-on experience with the information technology tools and platforms they will use in their future jobs. Bell Techlogix helped Anderson University replace old PCs with the modern virtual desktop infrastructure (VDI) technology that businesses, hospitals and organizations are adopting today, so students receive better preparation for their careers. The move from traditional PCs to thin client desktops also helps the university reduce energy and cooling costs, and space consumption.*

### CLIENT

Anderson University is a Christian college located in central Indiana. Founded in 1917 by the Church of God, the university has grown to include an undergraduate liberal arts program and graduate degree programs in business, theology, education and nursing. About 2,600 students and nearly 300 instructors and professional staff members comprise the academic community.

Bell Techlogix has been providing IT sales, support, and consulting services to Anderson University for more than fifteen years. With over twenty-five years of experience in the IT industry, backed by talented executive leadership, strong industry relationships, and an outstanding reputation, Bell Techlogix provides integrated technology products and services to businesses, educators, and other organizations throughout the United States.

### BUSINESS SITUATION

Like many organizations, Anderson University's information technology infrastructure developed in step with the college's evolving needs. But all those foundations, solutions, and extensions, each carefully planned in its day, had resulted in a system far different than one might design with the benefits of hindsight and today's technology.

"The network just kind of grew," observed IT Director Cindy Smith. "It wasn't very pretty, and it had a lot of quirks that started to cause problems."

Among the network's limitations were an abundance of personal computers in laboratories, classrooms, and offices. These represented a powerful tool for research, project creation, and first-hand experience with some applications, but were dated and severely limited in many other respects.



*"Bell understands higher education and provides services we need at a cost we can afford."*

— Cindy Smith, IT Director, Anderson University

### SOLUTION

VDI seemed to offer the capabilities Anderson University needed to enhance the classroom experience. Smith knew that many of today's most important applications for nursing and other career paths had moved from PCs to shared server platforms accessed through thin client desktop devices. Keeping Anderson University's graduates among the most competitive job seekers required making the same upgrades at the university.

Bell Techlogix worked with Smith's internal IT staff to develop and deploy VDI to replace as many as 125 PCs in the university's laboratories and library. Bell collected the information required to understand the best solution for desktop efficiency, including:

- The number and types of desktops required for each task
- The number of desktops that would be running concurrently
- The configuration, memory and CPU requirements for each application

Based on this data, Bell recommended an infrastructure utilizing HP blade servers running Microsoft Windows and supporting a VMware View 5 environment. This allows for a variety of backends, so users can log into whichever environment best suits their needs, whether that's a basic desktop for email and internet access, a medical records application, or some other course-specific tool.

### BENEFITS

VDI provides the university with a software-on-demand solution that can support more users with fewer software licenses. The new architecture also reduced the University's IT energy costs.

"The old CRT monitors and desktop computers really put off some heat," Smith noted. "Every lab we built up until now required auxiliary air conditioning because of that thermal output, which meant an extra cost. With thin clients, savings come from energy utilization, space and cooling."

The university is now exploring ways to extend its VDI initiative. "To date we've focused on applications that feature a visual user interface, but we're beginning to look for devices that can deliver quality audio and video too," Smith said. "We're testing the new HP Thin Clients and desktops, as well as other options, to help better meet the needs of courses like video editing and music."

### PARTNERSHIP

VDI is just the latest initiative for which Anderson University has relied on expertise from Bell Techlogix. Other recent projects have included a top-to-bottom redesign of the university's legacy data network—which Smith compares to "adding a basement to a three-story house"—and migrating directory services from Novell to Microsoft Active Directory.

With so many information technology vendors and consultants in the market, why does Anderson University keep selecting Bell Techlogix for project after project, year after year? Says Smith, "Satisfaction with a vendor really comes down to people. Bell has attracted resources that work out well for us. Our sales rep is the best I've ever had—she's attentive but doesn't try to sell what we don't want, and she works closely with vendors to get us the best price. Bell understands higher education and provides services we need at a cost we can afford."

### ABOUT BELL TECHLOGIX

Bell Techlogix is a provider of integrated technology and service solutions for organizations throughout the United States. Bell has over 25 years of experience in delivering IT technology and services to organizations across all industries. Their core team of subject matter experts carries extensive industry certifications and helps clients reduce cost and be more responsive to their own customers. This is accomplished through the delivery of managed service solutions

encompassing Infrastructure Management Services, End User Computing, Enterprise Mobility Management and IT Lifecycle Services. This combination of experience and expertise allows Bell to deliver complete solutions on-time and on-budget. Bell's technology solution suite assists IT Executives in planning for future growth while ensuring the optimized delivery of IT and mobile services, resulting in improved service levels and quantifiable cost savings.

*Find out how Bell Techlogix can help your organization achieve IT excellence, reduce technology costs, and keep your solutions up-to-date with industry trends and customer demands.*

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