



customer case study



Ouachita Baptist University Arkadelphia, Arkansas

Ouachita Baptist University Minimizes Network Administration by Deploying Seagull Software Technology

At the core of almost every college and university is a central administration system that maintains critical information such as class schedules, student information and grades. Schools like Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia, AR, rely heavily on these applications. When the university needed to upgrade all of its computers to the most recent installment of Windows, the computer services department was shocked to discover that the school's terminal emulation program was not compatible with Windows 98 or above.

The compatibility problem sent the university on a quest to find a new emulation program. Aside from the fact that the new solution needed to be compatible with Windows, the university wanted a lean client that could be deployed to workstations across the campus quickly and easily.

After examining several vendors, Ouachita Baptist University selected Seagull Software's BlueZone™ technology, a component of LegaSuite®. BlueZone is a thin, fast, full-function Web-to-host and PC-to-host terminal emulation solution for mainframe, iSeries, UNIX/DEC and secure File Transfer Protocol connectivity. With BlueZone's small footprint, the typical download size is less than 1 MB. BlueZone's compact size empowered the school to keep installation time to a minimum, while conserving desktop disk space. In addition, BlueZone can be launched quickly with just a click of the mouse - almost immediately providing users with green-screen-in-a-browser access to legacy applications.

A Seamless Transition

Ouachita selected BlueZone because it could deliver all the functionality of the university's original legacy application in a thin, fast terminal emulator. "We were looking for a client that was reasonably lean so we could launch it to all of the workstations on campus fairly easily. We have over 150 machines, so the installation needed to be pretty straight-forward, and the solution itself needed to be easy to maintain. BlueZone has done that for us," said Bill Phelps, director of computer services of Ouachita Baptist University.

Ouachita Baptist University was founded in Arkadelphia in 1886. The school consists of 1,600 students and 100 faculty members. U.S. News & World Report placed Ouachita fifth among 105 regional comprehensive colleges and universities in the South. With a student to teacher ratio of 13:1, Ouachita offers courses in eight schools.



For users, the transition to BlueZone was transparent. Ouachita Baptist University didn't have to spend any time or money retraining its faculty. "The icon changed on the users' desktops, but ultimately everything looks the same to them. They don't really know that much has changed," commented Phelps. "The transition to BlueZone was smooth. It went well. We had no major problems to speak of."

In addition, the flexibility of the licensing policy was appealing to Ouachita. Seagull Software provides customers with a choice of purchasing either concurrent or per seat licenses. "We have a pool of 125-150 users, but we don't usually have more than 50 on at a time. With BlueZone's concurrent licensing option, we paid only for the amount of users that would be on the system at any given time. So we didn't have to purchase 150 separate licenses. That is another reason why I like BlueZone and why we selected it," Phelps said.

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Director of Computer Services
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Seagull Software specializes in powerful technology for connecting proprietary legacy applications to service-oriented architectures in J2EE and .NET environments. The LegaSuite® platform of integration, Web-enablement and terminal emulation solutions reflects over 14 years of legacy liberation experience, and is used by over 8,000 organizations around the world for business-critical operations.

Every day, millions of end users depend on LegaSuite for online banking, relocation services, e-government, insurance claims processing, cable/utility/telecom call centers, kiosk bill payment, online order processing and many other important business processes.

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