



"Using Microsoft and Citrix technologies allow us to centrally and efficiently manage servers, desktops and applications while saving cost. Students and teachers have access to school applications from home. We have an opportunity to provide distance education to students in smaller communities."

Martin Male,
Manager, Information Technology Services, YED1

Key Benefits:

- Cost savings from centralized administration and hardware replacement cost
- Increase IT efficiency and responsiveness
- Enables secure home and remote access
- Simplifies access for students and provides opportunities for distance education
- Improved IT infrastructure and application performance and availability

Networking Environment:

- Microsoft Windows Server 2008
- Microsoft Active Directory
- Citrix XenServer running on HP ProLiant DL380 G5 and HP StorageWorks 2000i
- Citrix XenDesktop Enterprise including Provisioning Server
- Citrix XenApp
- Citrix Access Gateway
- Fiber-optic WAN
- Dell PCs
- Windows Vista Enterprise

Applications Streamed and Hosted:

- Microsoft Office
- Open Office
- File Maker
- First Class
- Inspiration
- Kidspiration
- Kid Keys
- Kid Pix
- MIA Reading
- Read and Write Gold
- Synchroneyes

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Acrodex - Yellowknife Education District No. 1 End-to-End Virtualization Case Study

Yellowknife Education District No.1 (YED1) is located in the city of Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, with over 250 staff and approximately 2,000 students spread across 6 schools and 2 administrative offices. The Education District No.1 has approximately 900 computers maintained by an IT staff of 3.

The Challenge: Migrate to a new network platform, consolidate and optimize IT resources, and reduce the Total Cost of Ownership.

The YED1 network infrastructure was built on Novell's Netware 6.5 Operating System and eDirectory.

YED1 implemented a distributed computing model with two or more physical servers in each school and administrative offices. Server and PC configuration was a manual process with all applications installed locally on the clients. Servers and PCs had to be replaced every few years.

The increasing demand to leverage newer technologies coupled with reduced vendor support, limited IT resources, aging IT network infrastructure and the need to reduce the TCO required a new strategic direction.

The IT team needed a new approach to harness the right technologies to deliver more innovative, efficient and cost-effective IT services to students and staff.



The Solution: Microsoft Windows Server 2008 and Citrix End-to-End virtualization.

YED1 engaged Acrodex, a Microsoft Gold Partner and Gold Citrix Solution Advisor, to assist them in selecting the technologies and design, architect and implement a solution to meet their business requirements.

After considering Acrodex recommendations, YED1 selected Microsoft's Windows Server 2008 and Active Directory for their network operating system and directory services, and Citrix virtualization products for server, desktop and application virtualization.

Once the solution was designed and approved by YED1, the solution was implemented in 2 distinctive phases.

- **Phase 1:** Involved the installation and configuration of the XenServer virtualization infrastructure including the storage area network, host servers and the virtual guest servers to support Active Directory, file and print, and other network services. The migration from Netware to Windows was part of this phase.
- **Phase 2:** Included the installation and configuration of Citrix XenDesktop and XenApp to deliver desktop and application virtualization, streamed and hosted, to one of the schools. Citrix Access Gateway was also configured to provide students and staff with secured remote access to their virtual desktops and applications.

By adopting Microsoft Windows Server 2008 and Citrix virtualization products, YED1 has accelerated the return of investment while reducing both hard and soft IT costs and increasing the IT infrastructure flexibility, availability and scalability. The solution has simplified administration, increased efficiency and enhanced security: servers, desktops and applications can be quickly deployed in minutes, server and desktop management has been reduced and secured remote access is available for students and staff. The adoption of these technologies has position YED1 as technology leader and has opened new opportunities.



- XenServer
- XenDesktop
- XenApp
- Access Gateway



- Active Directory
- Group Policy
- Networking
- File/Print

Your Acrodex Team

Your Acrodex team includes specialized consultants and certified professionals that will work closely with your personnel to ensure a successful outcome to every IT project in your organization. We recognize that every organization is unique, but all value agility, cost savings, efficiency, and choice. We work hard to build and maintain strategic relationships with our client partners.

