



Peterborough City Council Saves Money and Saves the Planet

Microsoft
GOLD CERTIFIED
Partner

Peterborough City Council estimated that 30% of its PCs were being left on unnecessarily. As an authority it is committed to reducing its carbon footprint and providing an example to others to advocate emission savings.

Customer profile

Peterborough City Council is a unitary council serving a population of 170,000, with 4,500 staff including schools. It is already rated a 'good' authority and is committed to achieving excellence within 18 months through an extensive corporate transformation programme driving performance improvement and cost reduction.

The objectives of the Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR '07) and the UK Climate Change Programme 2006 make tackling energy waste and reducing carbon emissions a high priority for the public sector. In addition, Peterborough wanted to demonstrate its commitment to reducing its carbon footprint and needed demonstrable evidence of its work to reduce emissions and to reduce cost.

National Background

The UK could save 700,000 tonnes of CO₂ emissions and £115m in electricity costs per year.

A recent report commissioned by 1E with the National Energy Foundation has found that carbon emissions equivalent to all the cars in a city the size of Liverpool could be saved every year by UK organizations simply by turning off computers overnight and at weekends.

Our research found that one in five workers leaves their computer on at work at least three times a week, wasting 1.5 billion kWh of electricity and generating significant amounts of unnecessary greenhouse gases. This equates to 10% of the UK's Climate Change Levy target of 2 MtC. Costly to your organization, and costly to the planet.

The solution

Peterborough City Council in conjunction with 1E looked at a simple, cost-effective and immediate solution. The 1E software solution NightWatchman® enables the automatic, centralized power management of PCs across the ICT infrastructure. It ensures that any work is saved before shutdown, closing applications safely and securely during patching. This solution has been deployed globally across one million PCs in both private and public sector organizations.

The challenge

Peterborough City Council has 4,500 staff and it was estimated that 30% of PCs were being left on at some point, costing the authority between £40 - £60 per annum per machine. Educating the user community had been tried and a shut down policy was in place but the perception remained that machines that went into standby mode were powered off. This resulted in significant power still being used by machines left on standby, particularly over weekends.

The benefits

- Save money on your organization's energy bills that can be re-directed to frontline service provision
- Enable the achievement of the IT Power Management "Quick Win" identified by the Sustainable Procurement Group
- Help to save the planet and contribute to the UK's climate change targets

In addition Peterborough City Council opted to include other 1E products in the solution including the roll-out of Microsoft Systems Management Server (SMS, now System Center Configuration Manager 2007) to save money on desktop deployment of software and to provide additional management reporting functionality, and 1E's Shopping solution to save money on support calls relating to the availability of new software for users.



Testimonial

“I am delighted with the results of this project. We set out to achieve a return on investment in 6 months and achieved our target in less than 3 months. When added to the carbon emission savings and the better delivery to our in-house customers, this has been one of our best investment decisions.”

Nigel Green, Head of ICT
at Peterborough City Council

“With any ICT project there is a degree of risk, but this programme has shown that with minimal initial investment we can both deliver cost savings in a very short period of time, as well as showing the wider community that our commitment to energy management and reducing our carbon footprint is much more than rhetoric.”

Gillian Beesley, Chief Executive
at Peterborough City Council

Solution overview

Project requirements

- Reduce carbon emissions by enforcing the shut down of PCs and laptops
- Better manage the ICT infrastructure via SMS
- Deliver software faster and more cost effectively
- Save money by reducing the amount of electricity being wasted on PCs left in standby mode for long periods of time
- Retain the integrity of documents worked on
- Provide better management reporting to demonstrate Peterborough City Council as a leader in energy management

Solution

- Introduce Microsoft SMS to better manage the ICT estate and consistently deliver software to the desktop
- Implement NightWatchman to enforce the shutdown of PCs and laptops
- Make available new options of software via 1E Shopping to users and reduce cost to execute

Benefits

- A cashable saving of £50k per annum on electricity
- Over 100 hours of ICT staff time saved by moving to 1E Shopping
- Over 250 hours of ICT staff time saved by introducing SMS
- A reduction of 250 tonnes of CO₂ emissions per year

The project delivered a return on investment in less than 3 months to the Council.

About 1E

1E is a global Windows management software and services company. Our expertise in providing leading-edge automation solutions, which reduce systems management costs, power consumption and complexity, has earned us the trust and confidence of more than 10 million users in over 1,000 organizations across 42 countries worldwide.

Customers include Allstate Insurance, Atkins Global, Blue Cross, British Airways, Dell Inc., HSBC, ING Investment Management, Marks & Spencer, Microsoft, National City Corporation, Nestlé, RBS Global Banking & Markets, Reed Elsevier, SABMiller, Syngenta, T-Mobile, US Air Force on behalf of the Pentagon, Verizon Wireless and Visit Britain.

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