Case study

Erlanger Stadtwerke AG reduces printing costs with HP

The energy-efficient HP PageWide Pro printers are a hit thanks to web-based administration

Industry
Municipal energy provider

Objective
Modernisation of the printer infrastructure, taking into account ecological factors

Approach
Transfer to emissions-free, economical HP PageWide Pro printers and multifunction devices

IT matters
- The HP PageWide Pro prints at record speed, making it very economical
- Automated status and fill level monitoring via the HP Web Jetadmin software

Business matters
- Reduction in energy costs
- Less time spent on maintenance as ink is ordered automatically

ESTW
ERLANGER STADTWERKE

"When selecting our new printers, protecting the environment was a key factor. With our new HP PageWide Pro devices, we can meet our targets for saving energy and reducing our emissions."

– Jürgen Stengel, system and network administration, ESTW AG

Moving from laser printers to PageWide technology

Complete transparency, automated maintenance and reduced energy costs – the new HP printer infrastructure at Erlanger Stadtwerke, a municipal energy supplier, will quickly pay for itself. A total of 35 printers and multifunction devices have been installed in the open-plan office at ESTW AG's headquarters. The company took the conscious decision to move from laser printers to the latest PageWide technology. The small quality difference is not relevant for the purposes of a local energy company, so all printing processes can run faster and substantially cheaper.

Challenge

Supplying energy to Erlangen
Erlanger Stadtwerke AG (ESTW AG) is a subsidiary of the Erlangen town administration, and provides a range of services to its 105,000 residents. This includes running the bus services and swimming pools to supplying the residents with electricity, gas and water. Environmental protection is playing an increasingly large role. Householders in Erlangen can choose an eco-tariff, meaning that all of their energy comes from renewable sources.

No wonder, then, that the company itself wants to become even more environmentally friendly. Even with its IT systems. So ESTW AG began its search for a more environmentally friendly solution for its printers. As an energy supplier for a large city, every day brings more and more bills and letters to customers. In total, ESTW AG uses some 500,000 sheets of paper per year. The company previously used a large laser printer, located in the office and often used by five to eight employees at any one time.

The key requirement for the new printer system was emission-free devices that are also highly energy-efficient.

Solution

Emission-free printing
Following extensive consultation with the HP partner in Nuremberg, MR-Datentechnik, ESTW AG decided on the PageWide Pro series. The 460 employees now have access to 35 PageWide Pro multifunction devices with print, copy, scan and fax functions.

This caters to the environmental protection aspect. Both HP models fulfil the “Blue Angels” RAL-UZ 171 criteria for energy efficiency and low emissions.

The models also rate highly according to the ENERGY STAR® regulations. With a record low typical energy consumption (TEC) value of less than one kilowatt hour per week, the PageWide Pro models perform considerably better than laser printers.

Benefit

Keeping IT costs down
“I am very impressed with the devices,” says Jürgen Stengel, who’s responsible for ESTW AG’s system and network administration. “With the PageWide Pro printers, we are making savings on all levels.” The devices’ excellent energy efficiency brings down the electricity costs of the printer fleet by a good 50%.

The initial costs are also much lower than laser printers and when combined with the cost-effective lease offer, this is of real benefit to the IT budget. “The supplies are also substantially cheaper.”

Customer solution at a glance

Hardware
- HP OfficeJet Pro X551dw printer
- HP OfficeJet Pro X576dw multifunction printer

Software
- HP Web Jetadmin

And he does not just mean the price of the HP Toner and Inks. Administration costs have also decreased as the HP Web Jetadmin management system allows the entire fleet of printers to be centrally managed. This means that Jürgen Stengel and his team can install software updates and monitor printing behaviour remotely. The network structure can therefore be continuously adapted.

"Thanks to HP Web Jetadmin, we are alerted to errors very promptly. The software is also very practical in terms of monitoring supplies; as soon as an ink cartridge falls below 10% full, a replacement is ordered automatically. Logistical overheads have also reduced due to this. We no longer need as many storage areas, as the products are ordered as and when they are needed."

– Jürgen Stengel, system and network administration, ESTW AG

High speed

For general office applications, the HP PageWide Pro prints at a speed of up to 70 pages per minute. "That is substantially faster than our previous laser printers," continues Jürgen Stengel. "The printing speed is incredible. The print quality is also excellent for normal business correspondence. The loss of quality in comparison to a laser printer is virtually irrelevant for us as we do not have to print photos or similar items."

Another bonus is the colour touchscreen on the devices. This can be used to control the copier and fax functions. "It's very intuitive to use," says Stengel. "The display allows us to enlarge things with the swipe of a finger, just like with a tablet PC."

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The HP products highlighted in this case study are HP OfficeJet Pro X and HP OfficeJet Enterprise X using HP PageWide technology. All references to the HP OfficeJet Pro X, HP OfficeJet Enterprise X and inkjet in this case study have been replaced by their current HP PageWide brand name: HP PageWide Pro, HP PageWide Enterprise and HP PageWide. The change of brand name does not affect the results of the case study

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