Productivity gain and simplified digitisation with HP Flow MFP

HP Flow MFPs thrive in a Linux environment despite strict security constraints

Industry
Social care association

Objective
To deploy a reliable and ergonomic digitisation solution with no server or workstation installation required, to generate productivity gains

Approach
HP partner Scriba recommended a HP Flow MFP and loaned a test model for evaluation. This proved so successful that the organisation invested in 22 HP printers, including 16 HP LaserJet Enterprise Flow MFP M525c models

IT matters
• Compatibility with Linux operating system

• Directly embedded intelligence and pre-configurations in the HP Flow MFPs

• Advanced security management with HP administration tools

• Ultrasonic double-feed detection guarantees that every single page is properly scanned with almost zero paper jams

Business matters
• Simple, ergonomic use with pivoting 20.3 cm LCD touchscreen

• Task automation with preconfigured, use-based digitisation profiles: convert scanned images to editable and searchable documents (scan to Word, to PDF/A OCR, etc.)

• Productivity gains of over 30 per cent enable the doubling in volume of printouts and scans

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"This multifunction HP Laser Enterprise Flow MFP M525c is the most advanced on the market with functions only offered by HP that fit the customer's needs perfectly."

– Renaud de Rocquigny, Printing Solutions Manager, Scriba

Users have saved time and increased productivity by using HP solutions

A parents' association in Aquitaine wanted to replace its fleet of printer devices. This renewal came with new requirements: it had to handle a greater monthly print volume and to simplify the digitisation and direct integration of documents into its IT system. There were two overriding constraints: a Linux environment and data security. The HP Flow MFP models matched the customers' needs.

Challenge

Replace a printer fleet with modern devices running on Linux

In France, 800,000 adults over the age of 18 are covered by legal protection in the form of a "custodianship" or "guardianship" that protects their personal and financial interests. An association specialising in this field has existed in Bordeaux since 1970, enabling 2,400 people to become more independent by working out a life plan and assisting them as citizens. This involves a considerable amount of printed paper and the digitisation of files from various bodies, such as insurance companies.

As the contract for the original printer fleet of 20 devices had expired, the organisation wanted to replace them with a more modern solution that could more effectively handle the continuing increase in printing and scanning needs. However, there were two major hurdles facing this association: its IT environment runs on the Linux operating system and it requires the highest level of data security.

Solution

A range of secure, upgradable and customisable devices

The association also decided to modernise its fleet due to an expansion in its operations and the need to simplify the use of print devices to achieve greater productivity. An HP partner, Scriba, lent the organisation an HP LaserJet Enterprise Flow MFP M525c multifunction printer for preliminary tests. Renaud de Rocquigny, Printing Solutions Manager at Scriba, says: "The HP Flow MFP is a scan-optimised MFP with functions only offered by HP that fit the customer's requirements perfectly."

However, there were technical challenges to overcome such as printing and digitising in a Linux environment. Solutions were found thanks to the close cooperation between the HP sales teams and HP's technical support. As a result, the setup was up and running in less than two hours. Despite a slight price premium, the customer was delighted and purchased 16 units of HP LaserJet Enterprise Flow MFP M525c and additional A3 models in monochrome and colour: 3 x HP M725f, 1 x M775f, 3x M602x, 1 x M401dn and 1 x M9040MFP.

With a larger number of printers available, users are more efficient, they no longer have to wait for a device with a scanner to become available and scanning results are far superior. The association has now increased the number of printouts from 95,000 per quarter to more than 200,000 today, while the number of documents scanned is even greater.

Benefits

Smart simplicity

Previously, digitisation in this association had been complex due to the need to scan documents of different weights, sizes and conditions. This process has now been simplified significantly. The devices can now scan in recto/verso format in one go with an ADF – Automatic Document Feeder – capable of scanning a single batch of different sized documents. The digitisation is smart: if a page is inverted, it is automatically straightened out in the direction of reading. Even the smallest documents are always legible thanks to automatic cropping that removes unnecessary borders and blank pages. In addition, Optical Character Recognition software generates editable (MS Word) and searchable (PDF OCR, etc.) text formats, including legal archiving formats like PDF/A OCR.

There is even ultrasonic technology embedded that sends sound waves to verify that a single sheet has been separated from the stack for processing, thereby ensuring that all pages have been scanned and the file is complete.

The colour touchscreen has been customised with preconfigured buttons (HP Quick Sets) for specific tasks for greater efficiency. Users can preview and edit scanned documents before they are sent. A retractable keyboard makes it easy to enter additional data or to rename files. This also makes it possible to manage tasks and to rename files directly if necessary.

"This parents' association based in the Bordeaux region has succeeded in halving its digitising time, with productivity gains of 30-40 per cent."

— Renaud de Rocquigny, Printing Solutions Manager, Scriba

Lastly, the multifunction printers are equipped with a USB port. An engineer can simply and quickly restore the complete setup using a USB key with the settings for each machine in the event of a problem. This operation cannot be centralised because this organisation's IT environment runs on Linux. Furthermore, firmware updates recommended by HP are not installed automatically. They are first tested on a stand-alone device and then deployed if there aren't any issues.

This parents' association, based in the Bordeaux region, has therefore succeeded in halving its digitisation time, with productivity gains of 30-40 per cent. Despite the challenges of the Linux environment, HP's printing solutions have proven to be ideal, bringing all the benefits of a global, efficient, upgradable and sustainable solution.

**Learn more at
hp.com/flow**

Customer solution at a glance

Hardware
- HP LaserJet Enterprise color Flow MFP M575c
- HP LaserJet Enterprise MFP M725f
- HP LaserJet Enterprise color MFP M775f
- HP LaserJet Enterprise M602x
- HP LaserJet Pro M401dne
- HP LaserJet M9040 MFP

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