

In-house printing lowers overheads for high school

The ability to produce class sets of teaching resources in-house is helping Mount Roskill Grammar School to improve educational outcomes and cut costs.

BACKGROUND

Mount Roskill Grammar is a coeducational state school with more than 2300 students, 150 teachers and 50 support staff.

In a school as large as MRGS, document costs could easily spiral out of control, but a close relationship with Konica Minolta has always helped to keep expenses reined in. MRGS has been a Konica Minolta customer for many years.

A specialised resource centre handles the majority of document printing and copying at MRGS. Managed by Fran Parkinson, the centre looks after the long run work, exam papers, booklet production and printed school-to--parent communications. The printing of class sets of workbooks was outsourced – a costly exercise that worked out at around \$30 per book. When books were lost from a set, teachers were inconvenienced because it wasn't economic to print replacement books.

SOLUTION

When the Konica Minolta BizHub Pro1050 was launched in New Zealand last year, Fran Parkinson and MRGS Business Manager Gary Bevin saw it as an attractive proposition for the school. After a detailed demonstration at Konica Minolta, they were greatly impressed by the 1050's capabilities.

With a maximum volume rating of up to 1,500,000 impressions per month and a print engine containing sturdy metal component parts for reliability, the Konica Minolta bizhub 1050 is ideally suited to the 'torture test' environment at MRGS.

After consulting with their Konica Minolta account manager Alan Jennings, Gary and Fran could see that the 1050 had the potential to save the school time and money. It also had the potential to make teaching more effective by ensuring that classes were always equipped with the resources they needed.

USER EXPERIENCE

Since the arrival of the 1050 at the resource centre, Fran Parkinson has been able to significantly reduce the cost of workbook production. Instead of \$30, the unit cost is now more like \$9, depending on the size of the book. What's more, extra copies of workbooks can be quickly produced to keep class sets complete.

"Replacing lost workbooks isn't the hassle it used to be", says Fran. "Now we can quickly make a new one so that students and teachers aren't inconvenienced."

As well as saving money, the 1050 is saving time at MRGS. When a letter or notice needs to go home to parents in a sealed envelope, the 1050 is able to staple and fold documents. Previously, staff had to do these tasks manually – a massive job with MRGS’s large student roll.

“Before we installed the 1050, our administrative staff used to print up to 3000 letters a time on a laser machine. Then they’d get some helpers to come in on a Saturday to fold them. It was quite a task”, says Fran.

The 1050 has also made it easy to reproduce frequently used documents. Standard memos and letters can be scanned into the system, then accessed from a menu for reprinting. With more than 50% of student work still being delivered as ‘hard copy’, this scan to file function makes it easy to capture work in digital form, simplifying the task of long term storage.

BENEFIT SUMMARY

- High speed, low maintenance productivity.
- Previously outsourced print jobs can be handled in-house, saving money.
- Time saving finishing options, such as folding, stapling and hole punching.
- High quality outputs compare favourably with offset printing.
- Scan-to-email capability enables hard copy documents to be scanned and converted into electronic files.
- Frequently used documents can be stored on a menu for quick reprinting.