

Hamlet Vocational College

A huge amount of money has been saved at the Hamlet Vocational College after the copy & print system from Sagio has been installed. The students are now paying for copying and printing and the employees' use is registered and controlled.



240,000 sheets of paper less a year

Hamlet Vocational College is one of Northern Zealand's largest workplaces with 6 addresses at Hillerød and Elsinore, respectively. Hamlet Vocational College is an independent institution, which offers vocational training and courses within technical and mercantile fields for the whole Frederiksborg County. There are approximately 400 employees on the four addresses – and just under 30,000 students and course members annually.

Thomas Marhauer is Project Coordinator in the IT Department. He is responsible for all technical solutions, and he covers all departments of the college.

FACTS ABOUT HAMLET VOCATIONAL COLLEGE

Location:

Carlsbergvej 14-16
DK-3400 Hillerød

Web:

www.esh.dk

Number of employees:

approx 400

Number of students and course members:

approx 30,000 a year

The Sagio solution covers:

Copy & Print

At the beginning of 2005, Marhauer installed a payment card system in collaboration with Sagio. The system was installed in two of the school's buildings in Hillerød. The laboratory school and the HTX (Higher Technical Examination Program). Here, the students are now paying for copying and printing, and the student IDs are working as a means of payment.

"We wanted to be able to control our copy and print expenses, between different groups of students and employees. The idea was that it had to be up to each department which had separate budgets, how the expenses for copying and printing were to be organized. This is how it works now – thanks to Sagio's payment card system," Marhauer says.

Variable costs – a financial gain

The new copy and print system yielded a lot of advantages – financially, environmentally and practically. Control is achieved of how many pages are written out by whom and when. That is why it is also now possible to control the expenses:

"We can, at any time, limit and put a ceiling on the expenses – which means we can control the outcome of the expenses. The result of this freedom is the fact that, suddenly, it has become a variable expense instead of a fixed expense – and that is something the management values," Marhauer says.

Generally, there is great satisfaction with the copy and print system at Hamlet Vocational College because cost savings and advantages are tangible. A lot of things have been gained. Among others, an overview of the expenditure, larger freedom, the expenses have become variable and can be managed flexibly by the specific and actual needs, the print volume has been reduced considerably and paper waste is non-existent.

"After we installed the copy and print system from Sagio, we have experienced huge cost savings but of course there's an environmental matter in it as well," Marhauer adds.

The print volume reduced by 40%

The cost savings are so huge it is almost unrealistic. Nevertheless, it is a fact:

"Our paper use has been heavily reduced. The volume has been reduced by 40% - which is actually pretty much. The copy and print system is quickly paying for itself. Furthermore, some of the color printouts have been changed to black and white, and we can move the volume to another type of machine, one that is cheaper, if that's what we want," Marhauer explains.

"It is not my impression, that paper is ever printed out only to be lying around waiting for someone to come and pick it up. This was how it used to be, and I can see that this is how it is in other places – paper is being printed carelessly. However, here you have the possibility to stop four of the five printings that you accidentally ordered, and only print out the one copy that you actually need."

Before the copy and print system was introduced, the use was around 1,000,000 printouts a year. The savings are thereby 400,000 printouts that each cost 0.25 Danish kroner (approx 0.03 Euros) all inclusive. A lot of what have been reduced are wrong printouts, forgotten printouts and the like.

Moreover, printout is generally being done with greater thought. The employees do not pay for printing and copying, however, it does have a psychological effect that they can watch how much the printing and copying cost.

"Many of the teachers are also happy because the copying doesn't just power through," Marhauer says.

Thomas Marhauer, Project Coordinator
Hamlet Vocational College

Money on the card

Like most other places with a card payment system, Hamlet Vocational College has seen the advantage of having the money on the card instead of having it on a server. This leaves the school with a lot less administration and no legal responsibility for the employees' and the students' money. It is the responsibility of the holder to take care of the card and thus the money.

"Some of our demands for the system was that it had to be able to handle both printing and copying and that we wouldn't have money lying electronically on a server. If the money was on a server, it would be completely different and difficult administratively as well as financially. A simple solution that met our needs that was what Sagio could deliver," Marhauer says.

"I can definitely recommend the Sagio system to others. Sagio's people are competent and the system is complex enough to handle many different things all at one time - for instance time registration, access control and payment. The copying and printing system has just been great! It has always worked and there has been no problems, generally speaking. It works satisfactorily!"

Thomas Marhauer, Project Coordinator
Hamlet Vocational College

If a card is lost, a new one costs 100 Danish kroner (approximately 13,5 Euros) at Hamlet. This means that students take good care of their student cards, and therefore, not many student cards are being reissued at the college. This reduces the administration.

A forward solution that handles all

In the longer run, the payment system is also going to be introduced in other departments of the Hamlet Vocational College – Søndre Strandvej in Elsinore among other places. Here, Hamlet bought a system for time registration. The cards for the time registration had a magnetic stripe, therefore, it was important for the new system from Sagio to be able to handle both the chip and the magnetic stripe in one card.

"The people here at the IT Department insisted that the cards for the time registration had to be issued by Sagio's administration program, Essay. We are actually planning to introduce the copy and print system on Søndre Strandvej in Elsinore too, and it would be foolish to have two cards, right?" Marhauer says.

All things considered, satisfaction and joy are connected to Sagio's copy and print system on Hamlet Vocational College. It is working, and the school has saved a lot of money, after it was installed - and that profits both students and employees!