KEEPING UP WITH SAN DEMANDS

You'll Want a Partner for This Project

Jackson State Community College in Jackson, Tennessee, has nearly 5,000 students across 4 campuses that serve a 14-county area in West Tennessee. They also offer online, evening, and accelerated courses, and dual enrollment programs for high school students who want to earn college credits. Supporting such a large number of on-campus and off-campus students, Jackson State needed to upgrade their storage area network system (SAN). They turned to the PC Connection family of companies to implement an all-new SAN to efficiently serve the entire college community.

DELL PartnerDirect Premier

Kevin Johnson, Systems Administrator at Jackson State Community College, knew that a seven-year-old SAN was not providing the speed or production the college needed. After working with the experts at PC Connection to review various products and product demos, he and his team chose to implement a Dell™ Compellent™ solution. "The main concern [was] we needed tiering. Tiering was a new technology [for us]. Ultimately, Dell Compellent's tiering was something we felt was better than the rest, and it was very cost-effective," Johnson explained.

Since their move to the Dell Compellent SAN, they've experienced drastic improvements in speed. "I can just create volumes so much faster," Johnson said. "I can create them in a matter of minutes—or less—where it was taking me a whole lot longer with our older SAN." Not only that, but the simplified interface of the Dell Compellent solution has also made Johnson and his team more efficient. "We can create servers in a matter of minutes now, where [before] it was taking 30 minutes to an hour," he added.

Start your SAN upgrade project today.

1.800.800.0014

www.pcconnection.com

PC Connection™

we solve IT™

THE BEST KIND OF GROUP WORK

This was Johnson's first time through an implementation like this. They bought a new rack and worked with the PC Connection Services team to install the Dell Compellent SAN. Then they used VMware Storage vMotion to migrate their data and Dell AppAssure backup software to import data from the servers that they couldn't get in. "Migration and implementation went fast. It only took a couple of days. I really thought this was going to be a hard project, but the [PC Connection] implementation team [was] very friendly and knowledgeable, so they were able to help me every step," Johnson said.

THE RIGHT PARTNER MOVES YOU TO THE HEAD OF THE CLASS

If Johnson were to give his Dell Compellent solution and implementation a letter grade, it would be an A. From the ease of access and implementation to the simplified management of the Dell Compellent solution, "it's just been one of the best projects that I've ever worked on," he said.

As for working with PC Connection, a Dell Premier PartnerDirect partner, it's an experience Johnson would be happy to repeat. "They're always the most friendly people that I've ever talked to, and they've always been there to get us what we needed and get it here fast. I've always been really impressed and look forward to working with them again."

To learn more about Dell data center solutions and the range of implementation services PC Connection offers to support all your IT projects, call today.