

CASE STUDY:

Streamlining Device Management with ampiO Solutions

Customer Profile

This Independent School District, based in Texas, operates in the education sector and is dedicated to enhancing its IT infrastructure. To prove the viability of operating in an Entra ID-only environment for workstation endpoints and reduce on-premises administration overhead, The ISD partnered with ampiO Solutions. This collaboration led to implementing Intune and Windows Autopilot, significantly simplifying device management, enhancing security, and providing a more streamlined, cloud-driven process for IT operations. The solution ensured scalability, flexibility, and improved user experience for the district.

Business Challenge

The Independent School District faced the challenge of proving the viability of operating in an Entra ID-only environment for workstation endpoints. Additionally, they were burdened with a significant on-premises administration overhead, which was becoming increasingly cumbersome and resource-intensive. ampiO Solutions provided a comprehensive strategy to alleviate this burden and streamline device management.

Solution Provided by ampiO Solutions

ampio Solutions proposed a comprehensive strategy to address these challenges, focusing on device enrollment, configuration management, update management, application management, and Windows Autopilot.

- **Device Enrollment**
Devices were enrolled in Intune via Windows Autopilot, which streamlined the initial setup and ensured uniform configuration.
- **Configuration Management**
Baseline configurations were deployed using a Settings Catalog in Intune. Specific settings included assessed group policy objects (GPOs) and custom configurations, tailored to meet the unique needs of the Independent School District.
- **Update Management**
Workstations were kept up to date with update rings, ensuring they received monthly quality and semi-annual feature updates. This proactive approach, aimed at mitigating security vulnerabilities and maintaining system performance, was a key part of the solution.
- **Application Management**
Baseline applications like Microsoft Office were packaged and deployed to Entra ID security groups via Intune. This approach guaranteed that essential applications were consistently available and updated across all devices.
- **Windows Autopilot**
Autopilot controlled the out-of-box experience (OOBE), which included connecting the workstation to Entra ID, installing applications, and applying baseline configurations. This automation significantly reduced the time and effort required to bring new devices online, enhancing operational efficiency.

Business Benefits Realized

The implementation of ampiO Solutions' strategy brought numerous benefits to the Independent School District:

- **Simplified Device Management**
Centralized control over all devices through Intune reduced the complexity of managing multiple endpoints.
- **Simplified Deployment**
Windows Autopilot automated the configuration of new devices, minimizing manual intervention.
- **Cloud-Driven Processes**
Leveraging cloud-based management tools eliminated the need for extensive on-premises infrastructure.
- **Enhanced Security**
Regular updates and centralized management improved the overall security posture of the district's IT environment.
- **Scalability and Flexibility**
The solution could quickly scale to accommodate additional devices and users, providing flexibility for future growth.
- **Compliance and Reporting**
Intune's reporting capabilities ensured compliance with district policies and provided insights into device status and performance.
- **Improved User Experience**
Consistent configurations and up-to-date applications enhanced the user experience for students and staff.
- **Centralized Control**
All administrative tasks could be managed from a single console, simplifying oversight.
- **Automated Updates**
Ensured devices remained secure and functional with minimal manual effort.

Conclusion

By partnering with ampiO Solutions, The Independent School District successfully transitioned to an Entra ID-only environment for its workstation endpoints. The school district reduced on-premises administration overhead, streamlined device management, and enhanced overall security. This case study demonstrates the effectiveness of ampiO Solutions in addressing complex IT challenges in the education sector.