Customer Profile

This global computer-manufacturing leader has created an online training program that provides university students with the business-ready IT skills that are in deficit within the industry. In order to help create a solid professional work force, this manufacturer grants students direct access to its remote lab for academic training sessions, where they can access cutting-edge technology, gain practical experience and build job-ready skills.

Business Challenge

In order to set up the lab environment to serve the training program needs, the manufacturer’s professional testing-engineers needed a way to automate dynamic creation of variable complex training lab environments in order to avoid:

- Waste associated with dedicated, per-class lab environments that would only be utilized a fraction of the time
- Costly personnel time needed to manually configure lab environments on demand.

Customer Profile

The manufacturer’s engineers leveraged QualiSystems’ CloudShell lab-management solution to build a highly automated training lab infrastructure that would deliver a cost-effective operational model. They used CloudShell’s live inventory capability to organize all lab infrastructure elements into an easily searchable resource library. Engineers were able to leverage CloudShell’s graphical topology design and automation workflow authoring tools to create customizable automation commands to control, configure and activate complex test environments that include networking, and test generation equipment in the lab. CloudShell managed all lab connectivity based on Layer 1 switching.
Using CloudShell – The Results

CloudShell provided a very quick time-to-value for the program engineering team. The complex project of setting up the network operations lab infrastructure for the program was performed in just 3 months using CloudShell.

CloudShell empowers efficient use of lab infrastructure to deliver classes, restraining capital costs. By creating a completely dynamic pool of infrastructure resources that can be configured on the fly to meet requirements for a variety of different classroom lab environments, CloudShell has saved the manufacturer millions of dollars that would normally be required for per-class, fixed lab environments. In addition, rather than the one day turn-around time required to manually configure a classroom lab environment, engineers can now bring up training environments within 30 minutes. This resource usage efficiency minimizes the amount of capital spending needed to keep up with growing demand for classes.

Operational savings are gained through better visibility and automation of routine processes. The manufacturer’s engineers can easily track and reserve devices and reduce the time needed to perform administration and configuration tasks, keeping personnel costs in line with program budgets.

CloudShell also helps deliver a superior quality of experience for users. The training lab can now provide students easy cloud-like access to physical networking devices through a user friendly interactive topology diagram interface. In addition, by extending customized automated provisioning tasks, students are able, with the touch of a button, to reload training sessions, easily activate remote devices, and save or restore work between classes.

“CloudShell’s advanced capabilities reduce our team effort and time spent on infrastructure settings” said the manufacturer’s network test-engineer. “When evaluating CloudShell we were very excited to learn of its impressive performance, and after using the framework for the past several months we see a significant impact on our day-to-day operations and business value. The software offers our students a smooth training experience and the chance to work directly with a highly powerful lab management platform.”

Conclusion

CBy implementing CloudShell’s lab infrastructure management and workflow automation, this online training program delivers a more flexible, user-friendly training offering while minimizing capital and operational costs.

For more information on QualiSystems and CloudShell software, please visit: www.qualisystems.com.