

Beyond the Ordinary



Océ
Case Study



Printing for professionals

The Open University



Océ helps the people who make our world. Companies everywhere use Océ technical documentation systems in manufacturing, architecture, engineering and construction. Each week high speed Océ printing systems produce millions of transaction documents, such as bank statements and utility bills. And in offices around the world, people use Océ professional document systems to keep the wheels of business and government turning. Océ is also at work in publishing on demand, newspaper production and wide format colour for spectacular display graphics. It all helps our professional customers go "Beyond the Ordinary" in printing and document management.

Océ (UK) Ltd
 Océ House
 Chatham Way
 Brentwood
 Essex CM14 4DZ
 Tel: 0870 600 5544
 Fax: 0870 600 1113

www.oce.com/uk



A streamlined print solution for the UK's largest university

© 2008 Océ. Illustrations and specifications do not necessarily apply to products and services offered in each local market. Technical specifications are subject to change without prior notice. Océ, Océ VarioPrint 2110, Océ CS520, Océ CS620, and Océ Docsetter are registered trademarks of Océ-Technologies B.V. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners.

A streamlined print solution for the UK's largest university

The Open University (OU) combines excellence in higher education with scale. With around 180,000 students, it represents more than 20 per cent of all part-time higher education students in the UK, making the OU Britain's largest university.

Its undergraduate programmes are open to all adults, no matter what their previous educational experience. The University is ranked among the top UK universities for the quality of its teaching, with 94 per cent of students saying they were satisfied overall in a recent independent survey.

A formidable task

Supporting almost 5,000 campus and regional staff with reprographic services is a formidable task and identified the need for an integrated and flexible system that would enable the University to offer a wide range of print options. Working within the Higher Education framework tender process, Océ was chosen as the company with the best real-world technology platform that could deliver on every requirement the OU detailed in its procurement outline.

It was when the OU moved all its on-site digital printing from its Learning and Teaching Solutions department to the Computer Services unit that it took the opportunity to assess the way it managed its print.

Streamlining the process

Eoin Diver, manager of the Specialist Support and Information team at OU, explains how print was processed. "When someone wanted something copied, they would arrive with hard copy, which often had been printed on a local office printer. This was scanned and a member of the printroom team manually created a job ticket, which was time-consuming and labour-intensive. The office printers were often not high quality, so the final result was degenerated."

As this process, along with bulk printing on desktop printers and the time-consuming use of photocopiers, was not considered effective, the decision was made to streamline its printing operation.

Meeting requirements

To meet its digital printing requirements, the OU replaced the existing printers with three centralised Océ VarioPrint 2110 mono systems and two colour systems: an Océ CS520 and an Océ CS620, a GBC Power Punch and a high-capacity digital scanner. A Watkiss online finishing system has also been installed to carry out a range of tasks including saddle stitching, folding and trimming for high-end booklet making.



"We have found Océ to be an excellent and responsive supplier with strong engineering support and reliable equipment; we are extremely happy with our choice. The Océ account management and administration team maintain consistent, customer-focused support."

Jan Buley, Production Manager, Central Printing Services

Greater efficiencies

In line with the Open University's desire to move to electronic image submission and job ticketing, it also added a full digital front-end system based around Océ DocWorks Pro software, linking it into other printing systems. Additional software features include a job-costing module and a walk-up scanning solution utilising Océ Docsetter and DS 60 Scan Station software. This fully digital front-end workflow creates greater day-to-day efficiencies.

Jan Buley, The Open University's Production Manager, Central Printing Services, said: "We have found Océ to be an excellent and responsive supplier with strong engineering support and reliable equipment; we are extremely happy with our choice. The Océ account management and administration team maintain consistent, customer-focused support. In addition, the Océ solution has shown significant benefits. Bearing in mind there are around 15 million digital print impressions made every year, we have made substantial savings in our digital printing costs."

The Open University is a forward-thinking institution that wants to keep abreast of technological developments. "Our needs are ever-changing and, to date, our relationship with Océ has allowed us to meet technical challenges as they arise," Jan concluded.

