



AMX Technology is recipe for success at NESCOL College

Nescot, Epsom's college of higher and further education, has truly embraced technology. From its interactive whiteboards, to its virtual learning environments; this state-of-the-art college has a technical specification well worthy of its Technology Exemplar status, as awarded by the British Educational Communications and Technology Agency in 2009.

Nowhere is this commitment more evident than in the Preparation for Life and Work department, where innovative AMX technology is helping young people with learning difficulties and disabilities achieve their full potential.

North East Surrey College of Technology

The North East Surrey College Of Technology (NESCOL) is a large further education and higher education college in Epsom, Surrey, which attracts students from the local community, nationally and overseas.

In 2010, Ofsted rated Nescot as Outstanding for Leadership, Management, Capacity to Improve, Care & Support for Students, Tutorials, Enrichment, Safeguarding and Financial Management. Nescot are committed to enabling learners to succeed and achieve their goals.

Preparation for Life and Work Department

Working with 16 - 19 year old students who have mild to moderate learning difficulties, as well as adults who have more severe disabilities, Nescot's Preparation for Life and Work department helps students acquire invaluable life skills through the acquisition of accredited qualifications in subjects such as catering and cookery.

In 2010, following a successful bid for funding from the South East Action for Inclusion project, along with the recommendation of AMX technology by accredited partner Krome Technologies, the department was able to further enhance its resources through the integration of AMX technology.

"We knew that we wanted to enhance the facilities available for the Preparation for Life and Work department, but were unsure of the most appropriate technology available to achieve our requirements,

Krome's expertise around the AMX solution, along with their experience in working with similar educational institutes proved invaluable when making our decision," explains Iain Gibbins, Director of ILT, IT Services and LRC at Nescot College.

The AMX Solution

Installed in the college's teaching kitchens by AMX accredited partner, Krome Technologies Ltd, this innovative solution allows for the recording and playback of practical cookery demonstrations.

A central workstation, complete with a dome camera, records the lesson whilst simultaneously relaying the demonstration onto a large screen at the front of the classroom for collective benefit. Individuals can then retire to any one of five playback workstations where they can repeat the practical, replaying the demonstration or any previously archived content on their PCs, as and when they need further instruction.

"The benefits of this system are far reaching." Explains Lynn Reddick, Head of Preparation for Life and Work, Nescot College. "The technology provides access for all students, including those who may have previously found it difficult to stand and observe a live demonstration at the front of the class. The AMX equipment allows us to provide access for all and empowers students to select and play the parts of the demonstration they need to recap. The potential for the equipment to become an invaluable tool for learning is immense."



AMX Vision² Master

At the heart of this impressive technological solution is AMX's innovative Vision² system. Vision² provides staff in the Preparation for Life and Work department with a sophisticated, fully integrated and yet simple-to-use IP video delivery solution. Its extensive browser-based functionality is easily managed and makes the delivery of high quality video based communication a simple task; allowing Nescot to build a unique video communications infrastructure around a fully integrated product.

As part of the system, the AMX Vision² Master content management engine controls all aspects of the solution including the capture, upload, encoding, indexing, searching and on-demand streaming of the recorded cookery content.

Vision² Archive provides the department with an interactive library within which the didactic demonstrations can be stored and managed, whilst an integrated search feature allows pupils to find content easily, based on thumbnails, titles and metadata.

The Vision² Archive content categorisation and management service automatically collates the videos and logs them in a directory. Students are then able to search for a particular recipe or piece of video content via a simple-to-use menu system consisting of thumbnails of the video image accompanied by explanatory text.

The system allows administrators to create and edit image thumbnails and descriptive text at will. Any content added to the archive is immediately visible to students and can be accessed at any time, via the PCs, using Vision² On-Demand.

In Summary

With its impressive specification, Nescot's Preparation for Life and Work department is a showcase for the many benefits that technology-aided learning can bring.

AMX's innovative solution has taken the teaching of cookery to new levels of interactivity and ensured that the college is uniquely well positioned to support its students and help them gain invaluable skills – now that's what we call a recipe for success!

NESCOT are not only delighted with the AMX solution implemented, they were equally as impressed with the service received by the Krome project team.

"Krome have an excellent 'can do' attitude, they did everything possible to ensure that this project was completed successfully. We even had to make some last minute specification changes, but nothing seemed to cause the installation team any trouble, they were exceptionally helpful throughout," states Gibbins.

About AMX

AMX hardware and software solutions simplify the implementation, maintenance, and use of technology to create effective environments. With the increasing number of technologies and operating platforms at work and home, AMX solves the complexity of managing this technology with reliable, consistent and scalable systems. AMX award-winning products span control and automation, system-wide switching and audio/video signal distribution, digital signage and technology management. They are implemented worldwide in conference rooms, homes, classrooms, network operation / command centers, hotels, entertainment venues, broadcast facilities, among others.

About Krome Technologies

Krome provide technologies, services and solutions that work for you now and evolve with your business in the future. From infrastructure design, technical system support, project management to full lifecycle fulfillment services, Krome offer complete technology solutions. Krome consultants have a wealth of experience in solution design and deployment, and have the confidence in technology required to deliver integrated solutions that meet your business demands, however challenging.

If you would like to speak to one of the team about this case study, or require further information please contact us.

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