# **Case Study**



"For my classes each day I upload my assignment, come down to a kiosk, type in my name, and click print. It's that simple.

It's way more convenient to have ePRINTit here on campus. I use it every single day."



# COLUMBIA COLLEGE TRANSFORMS THE STUDENT PRINTING EXPERIENCE WITH ePRINTIt'S HIGHER ED CLOUD PRINTING SOLUTION

Columbia College, founded in 1854, is one of the oldest women's colleges in the United States. For years, **Columbia College** has provided women with a variety of experience to prepare them for success. By working closely with their students, they have provided coaching, internship, leadership training, and professional development opportunities to help them grow. Columbia College is ranked as one of the top ten regional liberal arts colleges in the South by U.S. News & World Report.

# **■** The Objective

Columbia College has always been early innovators when it comes adapting new solutions for their campus, like cloud services and printing in a wireless world. They were looking for a new printing solution that needed to fill vital criteria:

- Provide a very secure document delivery solution.
- The printing solution needed to be a completely self-service and self-managed print system with an option for file to print.
- Include a mobile print and online web portal that would work with any mobile internet connected device.



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#### Location:

South Carolina, USA

Year founded: 1854

**Industry:** Higher Education



- A customized account management system with card access and a private cloud to allow students to manage their own accounts on-line.
- Provide automated semester re-load of alloted funds.
- Allow students to top-up accounts when provided funds are depleted using debit or credit.
- Automate print notifications and printer ink and paper levels

It would have to be a unique file-to-print solution with a secure print and financial management system to fulfill the printing requirements of the entire college. Higher education institutions like Columbia College, are facing challenges like broad competition, complex technological changes, and overall increased costs. IT admin are forced to devote part of their focus into print management and IT systems rather than their main focus which should be education.

#### The Solution

After performing an in-depth analysis of the requirements needed, such as maintenance, proximity, quantity, and types of print, ePRINTit provided a print solution designed to accommodate the needs of today's higher education institutions.

The solution included 8-ePRINTit self-serve kiosk stations using HP colour laser printers and Citizen CX Photo printers, meaning every kiosk can create many different types of prints.

Columbia also provided LDAP integration which allows students to tag user cards linking to their own private, secure cloud-based account with all financial transactions and account balances. By working closely together with ePRINTit to develop new print solutions, new programs were written, tested, and approved in less than 8-weeks with a customized GUI designed specifically for Columbia College being implemented on all touchscreens.

Students can now print from anywhere, including their homes, personal computers, and labs thanks to the software defined print solution with custom design file to print options developed by the ePRINTit program team.

The ePRINTit solution was so innovative and so successful that Verizon Wireless featured the Columbia College solution as the future of IoT, creating an online campaign and showcase at CES Las Vegas 2015.





#### The Benefits

All students in Columbia College now have their own custom cloud repository with printing capabilities and the ability to manage their financial accounts in one solution. The College has full administrator access to these accounts to help assist students and report for expense purposes.

Every print station can create 120,000 prints per month with each kiosk being able to replace up to 500 redundant printers. Students no longer need to spend as much on printing jobs with Columbia College saving money from reduced electrical costs and an expected reduction of print volume by 30%!

No matter where students are, whether on campus or off, with the ePRINTit app they are connected with more than 30,000 locations around the world with the unique and convenient advantage of printing from any mobile device.

Columbia College would only be responsible for minimum monthly volumes aggregated across all units with ePRINTit covering all maintenance, toner, paper, and capital costs. ePRINTit is not only changing the printing technology model, but the entire printing business model, allowing schools like Columbia College to focus on education and providing innovative flexible solutions to their campus.

# Cost Reduction and Printer Agnostic

The core contract model has the option of offsetting the printing costs by utilizing a per page print fee, with a choice of adding margins to cover IT operating costs.

With our progressive solution of updating additional print stations, the overhead of procuring capital and service management is alleviated.

## **Web-based Solutions**

ePRINTit provides everyone with the ability to print however they want and wherever they want.

ePRINTit has many layers of user feature options to accommodate any printing solution and provide the best user experience for students, staff, faculty, and school administrators

### **Configurations and Models**

From large business centers, to desktop terminals or schools, printer stations come in a variety of sizes.

Models of larger print station can have configurations wither personal settings to support digital signage and perform speciality printing solutions for pass cards, tickets, and special media.

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