



St Michael's
COLLEGE

Case Study: Acer and St Michael's College Partner for Carbon Offset Program

St Michael's College is South Australia's largest Catholic school and is presently going through a period of rapid growth. The College caters for Reception to Year 12 and today serves over 1,400 co-educational students and includes 160 teaching and administration staff.

The school has grown in popularity because it is committed to providing the highest quality of education in a contemporary learning environment. It is this commitment that has seen St Michael's engage Acer to assist them in supporting their growing IT infrastructure.

Acer and St Michael's Partnership

St Michael's College commenced its partnership with Acer in 2006, when Acer won a competitive tender to become the College's IT partner and added over 250 Intel powered desktops to the College's PC fleet.

At the end of 2007, the College approached Acer with IT services partner Datacom for ideas to grow its desktop fleet to support the 2008 school year while still remaining kind to the environment as the issue was a concern for staff, students and parents alike.

St Michael's Network Administrator, Mr. Ashley Morrison, said, "Acer and Datacom developed a solution

that included the latest power saving PCs to support our continuing growth. This led to a green initiative where Acer, along with supply partners Intel and HDS, looked at offsetting the College's electricity emissions by planting trees."

A Focus on the Green World

St Michael's College has a reputation in the local community for being an environmentally friendly school. The College has reached its environmental goals by increasing the electronic delivery of documents to staff and students and reducing the unnecessary operation of desktop computers by ensuring all machines are powered down at the end of the day. Timers also turn air-conditioning and lighting systems off when no class is present in the room.

St Michael's environmental spokesperson, Mr. Tim Donovan sees a lot of opportunity for the College to cultivate its environmental credentials. So naturally, Acer's large scale green initiative, appealed.

"As technology partner of the College, Acer came to us with a proposal that went beyond product alone and allowed us to extend our current green initiatives and move to a greater role which we could be proud of within the community," said Donovan. "Acer's own commitment to the environment was something appealing for the College."

Acer and the environment

Acer is committed to the environment and is dedicated to reducing its carbon footprint as well as that of its clients.

To reduce carbon emissions, Acer has implemented a tree planting scheme where Acer plants a tree for every unit sold of its Veriton 1000 and L460 series, under the 3 Litre desktop range of PCs. Since the campaign began in October 2007, Acer has planted thousands of trees in Australia to help its customers offset carbon emissions from the use of Acer products.

Power Saving Technology

Under the St Michael's College 2008 desktop refurbishment, the College received a new fleet of Acer Veriton 1000 3 Litre desktop PCs, utilising Intel Core 2 Duo technology. This chipset technology along with Acer's innovative PC design (being 10 times smaller than the size of a traditional tower PC) delivers power efficiency and fewer carbon emissions without compromising on top level performance.



acer

"Acer provided us with the correct advice and a sound solution that includes a power saving and environmentally friendly desktop solution, which we can grow in the years to come," commented Donovan.

Acer SA/NT State Manager, John Winter, said "The education sector is looking for smaller, more compact, and quieter technology; one that leaves a small carbon footprint as schools are concerned about their power consumption. One of the big costs for schools today is power usage and it is becoming increasingly expensive. The education market is constantly looking for ways to reduce their power usage and saving costs.

"The Veriton 1000 fits within this perfectly as it has significant power saving features, and uses up to 30 percent less power compared to a standard desktop."

The Acer Veriton 1000 fleet provides the College with lower green house gas emissions attributed to power generation. For example, based on balanced usage in annual operation for 240 days a year, power savings of 57% per annum can be achieved over the previous generation of tower PCs. Based on the same usage in annual operation for 240 days a year for a fleet of 500 PCs, CO2 reductions of 110 tonnes per year can be achieved over the previous generation of a tower PC*.

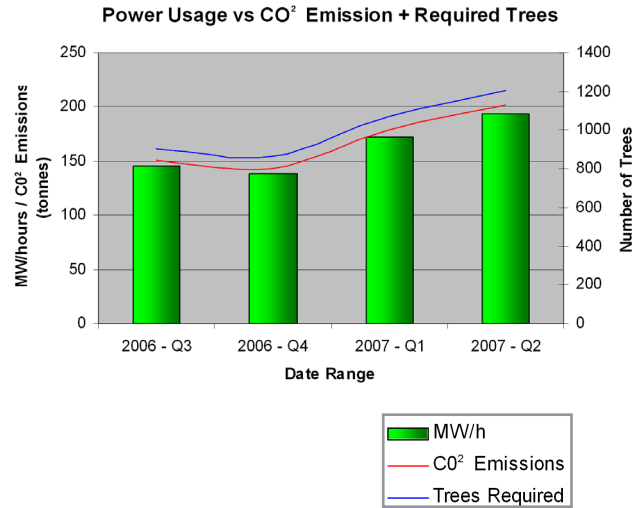


From Power Saving PCs to Planting Trees

As a part of the new desktop offering, Acer proposed to plant over 4,000 trees on behalf of the College to offset their current power usage; an initiative that was in addition to Acer's ongoing carbon emission offset program.

The planting of trees is an effective way to combat greenhouse gas emissions as trees absorb carbon dioxide as they grow and can therefore trap it for years. The tree-planting program is carried out by Acer's partner, Carbon Neutral, an organisation established to help community and industry take responsibility for the effect of greenhouse gas emissions on the environment.

Donovan explained, "Currently, our electricity based carbon emissions across the two campuses includes all IT equipment, lights, air conditioning and heating. In the 2006/2007 financial year, the College's entire total electricity use was over 600,000 kWh, making Acer's offset plan something of great significance."



According to Carbon Neutral calculators*, 4,400 trees are required to be planted to offset the College's entire power usage. The 4,400 trees will be planted across the Mallee Districts of South Australia.

Empowering the School to Benefit the Future

Donovan said, "Acer's partnership with St Michael's College delivers not only an innovative solution, but also provides the College with a positive environmental footprint.

As our student numbers continue to grow, it is important we maintain the very highest levels of service and education possible, but it is equally important to also look at ways to support our environment for these future generations. Acer has delivered both of these."

**More information on how Carbon Neutral makes its calculations can be found at: http://www.carbonneutral.com.au/comp_calc_backg_info_proposal_format.pdf
*Figures from [http://www.acer.com.au/acer/akc/rwpattach.nsf/PublicbySrc/Acer+Veriton+1000+-+White+Paper.pdf/\\$file/Acer+Veriton+1000+-+White+Paper.pdf](http://www.acer.com.au/acer/akc/rwpattach.nsf/PublicbySrc/Acer+Veriton+1000+-+White+Paper.pdf/$file/Acer+Veriton+1000+-+White+Paper.pdf)

Acer Veriton 3 litre desktop PC

Designed to balance compact size, powerful performance, quiet operation and total cost of ownership



- Ten times smaller & four times lighter than a traditional tower PC
- Only 3 litres in volume
- Compact size, no compromise on performance
- Power efficient with Energy Star 4.0 rating