

NIGHTWATCHMAN PC POWER MANAGEMENT

PRINCESS ALEXANDRA HOSPITAL NHS TRUST SAVES £27,000 PER YEAR WITH 1E



A compelling business case for automated switch-off of PCs persuaded Princess Alexandra Hospital to deploy NightWatchman from 1E. Along with the savings, the Trust is now far greener too.

Challenge

The NHS Trust not only sought to reduce energy consumption but to reduce its energy bills by a known and guaranteed amount. However its challenge was to accommodate the requirements of different departments and individuals within the Trust and ensure no work would be disrupted by automating the powering down of PCs out of hours.

Solution

The Trust recognized that with 1,200 PCs routinely left running, its bills were higher than necessary. But it was impossible to tell how much higher, or how much it could save by changing this. Furthermore the Trust wanted to reduce its carbon footprint and so selected NightWatchman from 1E.

Business benefits

- Benchmarked energy consumption
- Predictable and significant cost and energy savings
- Flexible, non-disruptive operation
- Annual savings of £27,000 across 1,200 PCs
- Annual reduction of more than 420 tonnes of CO₂

Share this



Saving Carbon, Improving Health

About Princess Alexandra Hospital

The Princess Alexandra NHS Trust, based in Harlow Essex, was established as an NHS Trust in April 1995. It is a District General Hospital providing a range of services including intensive care and neonatal cots, plus community paediatric and midwifery services to the local communities.

The Trust is in close proximity to the M11 and operates from a number of different locations including the main site in Harlow, together with outpatient and diagnostic services throughout the region. The Trust provides care and treatment to a population of nearly 258,000 people, employs 2,887 staff and has a turnover of £143million.

Under constant pressure to cut costs, all departments within the hospital were expected to find ways to save. There were also growing concerns about the Trust's energy consumption, related to the new carbon reduction strategy for the NHS, "Saving Carbon, Improving Health", which has set targets for the service to reduce its carbon emissions by 10% by 2015. "We've always encouraged staff to switch off computers at night, but behavioural changes take a long time to filter through," explains Bill Dickson, the Trust's Energy Manager.

The ability to benchmark current energy consumption and determine short and long-term savings proved a compelling argument for the Trust. Bill Dickson installed NightWatchman across the entire PC estate, leaving it in passive mode to ensure comprehensive data collection prior to a full deployment. "Accident and Emergency, X-ray and some other departments require 24-hour computer access, and this needs to be accounted for both in terms of energy savings and scheduling," explains Bill. "NightWatchman has this flexibility without compromising savings we can make."

The deployment of NightWatchman across the Princess Alexandra Hospital has introduced a simple yet effective means of ensuring all non-essential PCs are automatically switched off at 6pm. Hospital staff have responded well to the initiative. "NightWatchman matched our technology requirements by automating the switch-off of computers at preset times," comments Bill. "It also offered a powerful business case, by measuring current energy usage and costs, and predicting precisely how this could be reduced. Each machine displays a warning prior to switch-off which individuals can override if necessary. This level of flexibility means we achieve our energy reduction targets without disrupting anyone working, increasing the likelihood that future uptake of the product will be received positively."

The calculations made by NightWatchman during passive mode indicate that after offsetting its costs, the Trust can expect to save in excess of £27,000 per year, equating to an annual reduction of over 420 tonnes of CO₂. "1E was a highly professional implementation partner and we are already investigating the possibility of adding 1E WakeUp to the toolset to ensure prompt bootup of PCs each morning," adds Bill. "These are impressive figures for what is an apparently minor change in procedure - 1E has made a real difference to our bottom line."

About 1E

1E's suite of disruptive IT operations management tools save billions, solve problems and simplify the management of large, complex IT environments - in record time. Designed with a singular focus to help drive down costs, 1E's solutions include tools for IT asset management, Windows systems management and BYOPC.

Contact us

UK (HQ): +44 20 8326 3880 US: +1 866 592 4214 India: +91 120 402 4000 info@1e.com

Share this

