



# Passaic County Community College Implements Desktop Virtualization with a Nutanix Virtual Computing Platform



## Case study

### SCHOOL STATS

- 4 Campus Locations
- 13,000 Students
- 60 Degree & Career Programs

### INDUSTRY

- Community College

### CHALLENGES

- Implement a desktop virtualization solution to permit centralized desktop management and maintenance
- Implement a unified computing solution to reduce space and power requirements
- Implement a highly-extensible desktop solution to accommodate growth

### PRODUCTS UTILIZED

- Nutanix Virtual Computing Platform

### RESULTS

- A reliable, scalable, hyper-converged virtual desktop infrastructure
- Low, predictable costs
- Technology designed to facilitate the needs of higher education

## Introduction

Since its beginnings in the 1970s, Passaic County Community College (PCCC) has maintained its commitment to offer students the opportunity for a quality education at an affordable tuition.

Today, PCCC operates four campus locations throughout Passaic County, each equipped with state-of-the-art facilities. PCCC offers over 60 degree and career programs and an award-winning faculty, as well as continuing education and community-based programs.

One of the most diverse colleges in the state, PCCC enrolls over 13,000 students in both traditional and online programs. The College offers a rich multi-cultural environment, vibrant extracurricular life, and supportive academic and advisement network to encourage student success.

## PCCC’s Desktop Challenge

To successfully serve the computing needs of 13,000 students located on four campuses and online, PCCC decided to transition from a conventional to a virtual desktop infrastructure (VDI).

*“Right now, we consider [Nutanix] one of the high end solutions in [the hyper-converged] field”*

**- SAMUEL NUNEZ, VIRTUALIZATION SPECIALIST AT PASSAIC COMMUNITY COLLEGE**



VDI enables college users to access their desktops anytime, anywhere, and enables college officials to establish and enforce standard desktop configurations or images. Importantly, VDI allows the college IT staff to control the “user experience,” distributing application changes from a central server to select virtual desktops.

In pursuing VDI, PCCC wanted to address other infrastructure requirements: a small “footprint”, lower power utilization, operational redundancy, and a modular design supporting add-on capacity.

With many VDI solutions on the market, PCCC engaged PBG Networks to implement the ideal solution for the school’s unique needs.

## **PCCC Invests in Nutanix Virtual Computing Platform**

To satisfy the diverse requirements of PCCC students and staff, PBG partnered with Nutanix, a leading supplier of hyper-converged server/storage appliances.

PBG installed a Nutanix Virtual Computing Platform (VCP), which features a revolutionary new technology that integrates compute and storage resources into a single 2U appliance.

The Nutanix VCP combines commodity storage and servers into a single building block.

Designed to enable an efficient and effective virtual datacenter environment, the Nutanix VCP offers a smaller footprint, less expensive cooling and power, easier administration, and greater performance than conventional configurations featuring multiple server and SAN units.

Engineered to optimize the operation of VMware software, the Nutanix VCP serves hundreds of virtual desktop users and provides a fully-redundant information services environment, featuring instantaneous virtual machine failover.

## **PCCC Benefits**

With the installation of the Nutanix VCP, PCCC was able to commence their virtual desktop initiative.

More generally, the Nutanix VCP furnishes the foundation for a future hyper-converged IT infrastructure that lowers IT costs while improving IT performance, capacity, and user satisfaction.

## **Concluding Remarks**

PCCC credits PBG Networks with helping them successfully deploy virtual desktops in a high-performance, high-demand college environment.

*“Right now, we consider [Nutanix] one of the high end solutions in [the hyper-converged] field,”* said **Samuel Nunez, Virtualization Specialist at Passaic County Community College.**