

Keeping the oldest university in the English-speaking world on the cutting edge

Oxford University

OXFORD, OXFORDSHIRE UK

Providing a superior education

As one of the world's pre-eminent universities, Oxford University maintains exceptionally high standards for its students' education. Part of providing that experience means keeping the oldest university in the English-speaking world on the cutting edge. The recent and continuing growth in the use of Macs in Oxford means supporting these machines has become a priority.

According to James Partridge, the Oxford University Computing Services' Mac Specialist, "We have to be able to provide the infrastructure for student and staff Macs, and you can't do that kind of thing just by going around with a rewire drive. It's not going to work."

James also had to find a way to manage the complexity of his environment.

"Our university has a highly devolved environment: some colleges or departments will only have a handful of Macs, others have quite large deployments," he said.

In order to get up to speed, and provide the machines and support that would keep up with the increasing demands, he turned to Jamf Pro.

"It's safe to say, I really don't know how we would have done it without Jamf Pro," said James. "There was no other product that we looked at that could come close to supporting our needs."

AT A GLANCE

Oxford University



One of the world's preeminent universities

Utilizes Jamf Pro to manage more than 150 Macs

Self Service allows users to obtain resources on demand

Chose Jamf Pro for its focus on the Apple platform

Simplified package creation and remote deployment

Utilize Jamf Pro to centrally manage devices

“We have a very complex environment, which makes it difficult to manage machines in a planned and consistent way. Jamf Pro fitted into that environment more or less seamlessly and has meant that we can now offer a proper managed Mac service.”

James Partridge,
Computing Services' Mac Specialist

Of course, James had to make the case for separate Mac client management software, as opposed to Windows software with a Mac component.

“It was very easy with Jamf Pro to say, ‘this is native to the platform, it’s designed for the platform, it’s designed with an understanding of the platform,’” said James.

He also found that a quick demo was enough to win over his department. “The reaction internally from some of my Windows colleagues was, ‘I wish our software would do that.’”



AN INTUITIVE EXPERIENCE

James found that he and his department were able to get up to speed quickly once Jamf Pro was installed.

“In just six months we’ve been able to get to a production level supported service,” he said. “That includes learning how to use Jamf Pro ourselves, training, and deploying it within Computing Services. It is so obviously a product that has evolved on the basis of real experience, rather than a product that has been designed in a lab, on the basis of perceived need. You can press the ‘set up now’ button, and go off and get a cup of tea,” said James. “For people like myself who’ve had to struggle through hours of fiddling with poorly documented software—it’s absolutely just a joy.”



www.jamf.com

© 2002-2018 Jamf, LLC. All rights reserved.
Created 08/2017. Modified 05/2018.

See how you too can achieve Apple success by taking Jamf for a free test drive. **Request a trial.**