

Going Green: Herricks Union Free Schol District, NY



“Auto Shutdown Manager is very flexible. I have to admit: I’m very impressed. Easy to use, easy to deploy... you can’t ask for more than that.”

Michael Brewer, *Systems Administrator*
Herricks Union Free School District, NY

Mr. Michael Brewer, Systems Administrator for the Herricks School District of Long Island, New York, explains why Auto Shutdown Manager is the solution he has been looking for.

Auto Shutdown Manager protects teachers’ computers in Long Island, New York.

The Herricks school district in Long Island, New York is comprised of five schools and over 4,000 students. As a Systems Administrator, Michael Brewer knows the challenges of maintaining a network of PCs in a school environment. Herricks High School deployed Auto Shutdown Manager to 1200 computers to add security and conserve energy.

Challenge

Managing PCs in a classroom of savvy students.

Solution

When class is over, Auto Shut Down Manager saves the teachers’ files and logs them off.

Benefits

- Systematically secures all classroom computers.
- Teachers don’t even know it’s there.
- Easy to deploy and update for all computers in the district.

Location

New Hyde Park, NY



“We had a problem with savvy high school students hopping onto the teachers’ workstations in between classes. We’ve had problems with data being moved or deleted. We implemented Auto Shutdown Manager (ASDM) so that three minutes after the bell rings, as the class is emptying out, the systems will log off. They do that throughout the day, at every bell. At 5:30 I have the labs shut down for the night, and at 10:00 I have the rest of the building shut down. When they come in the morning, they power them back up, and the whole process cycles itself.”



After School Auto Shutdown Manager automatically shuts down all computers in one of the Herricks High School computer labs.

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“I have not received any complaints about anything problematic with the software. Not at all.”

- Mr. Michael Brewer

The simplicity and scalability of ASDM allowed Mr. Brewer to deploy the software to the entire district at once. “So far we have ASDM running on 1,200 machines. 1,200 and running strong,” said Mr. Brewer. “I just created a group policy, put it out there, and the machines got it.”

Furthermore, added Mr. Brewer, “auto-assignment is a nice feature. You just put in some keywords, and it’s really easy to sort the PCs into groups.”

“[ASDM] is the right solution as far as keeping our network secure, and shutting down our machines automatically. That’s something we’ve always wanted to do, is make that an automated process. At 3:00, the last thing a teacher wants to do is start shutting down PCs. So let’s do that automatically, systematically. That’s where [ASDM] comes in.”

Mr. Brewer commented that they have been looking for a solution like this for some time. “Our priorities are security first, and second, there’s just no reason for these machines to be running 24/7. It saves us money,” said Mr. Brewer. This made ASDM an easy sell for the superintendent of the district; “I brought it to my supervisor, and I said: ‘I think I have something that will fit the bill’”.



As for the teachers, said Mr. Brewer, “people don’t even realize it’s running. It doesn’t even affect them.” Asked why he chose ASDM, Mr. Brewer responded “I researched some of the alternatives, and they just didn’t do what we wanted them to. ASDM has the advantage of ease of installation and simple licensing. We purchased one site license that covers all of our PCs. The others charged per node; it was definitely more cost-effective using ASDM. The price of ASDM is definitely more than fair.”

The computers in Mr. Brewer’s network are running smoothly with ASDM. “You just configure it, install it, and forget about it. It runs and it runs well. If I have to make a change, I make a change.” Mr. Brewer was pleasantly surprised at how little maintenance ASDM requires. “The way the product updates itself is amazing. Just create a folder and put the file in there, click update and ‘boom’. Within a few days, all your clients are updated. That was flawless.”

Herricks District Online: www.herricks.org

Auto Shutdown Manager: www.itpowersaving.com

Power Savings Calculator: www.itpowersaving.com/power-saving-calculator