

# WinINSTALL Makes the Grade in Desktop Management at Lethbridge School District

Scalable WinINSTALL centralizes PC management and saves time



Lethbridge School District No. 51 [[www.lethsd.ab.ca](http://www.lethsd.ab.ca)] is the public school board in Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada, operating 19 schools covering grades from K through 12. Enrollment in the district is 8,200 students, and the district's motto, 'Building Bridges to a High Level of Student Services,' reflects its commitment to provide students with efficient and effective processes.

In addition to the schools, the district has one central administrative office and one sub-office, all within the city of Lethbridge. Schools are connected to the WAN-based Alberta Supernet with individual 10 Mbps connections. The school board is committed to managing its budgets, and part of that commitment includes using technology to manage the 2,430 PCs used by students and faculty.

## Moving from Novell meant changing desktop management

The IT staff of Lethbridge School District includes technical assistants (facilitators) and network analysts. At a team retreat, the staff debated the pros and cons of becoming a Microsoft shop. "It was a real starting point for us," said John Percevault, Director of Technology. "The staff came to talk, and as a result, made the decision to move from Novell."

"With Novell, Linux was required, and nobody really wanted to go that direction," explained Greg Smith, Senior Network Manager. With fewer products available to function on a Novell server, as opposed to a Microsoft server, it seemed to Smith that this was natural road to take. "Everyone can work in a Microsoft environment," Smith said.

However, Lethbridge School District required a product that would maintain the same functionality with the same tools they had been using. "As part of our decision, we had to replace our Novell ZENworks desktop management solution with a product that could accomplish as much—or more—than it was currently doing for us," Smith added.

Percevault had purchased WinINSTALL at another school district where he had previously worked. "We took a look at WinINSTALL, and the more Greg looked at it, the more we were convinced," he said. Smith concurred. "We found the product that worked—and WinINSTALL was it," said Smith.

Scalable WinINSTALL® provides comprehensive PC lifecycle management, enabling organizations to automatically deploy, update, and manage software or security for desktops, servers, and notebook computers. It combines standard desktop management functions such

## QUICK VIEW

### Problem

When the Lethbridge School District switched from Novell to Microsoft® technology, one thing was certain: any new desktop management tool chosen had to provide exceptional centralized management, PC Restore and Disaster Recovery—and ease of use.

### Solution

- Centralized management
- Had to adapt to their Microsoft environment
- Inventory and asset management
- PXE-based PC rebuild and restore

### Results

- Increased employee productivity with streamlined replication
- Centralized management saves time
- Using WinINSTALL's PC Restore and Disaster Recovery features via the WinINSTALL console, the IT organization doesn't need to spend hours troubleshooting a PC failure
- Cost-effective and easy to use

“In our weekly meetings, our technical people continually make positive comments about WinINSTALL... they truly appreciate what it does. The WinINSTALL product has proved itself—it is a great solution.”

– John Percevault –  
Director of Technology  
Lethbridge School  
District No. 51

has a number of makes/models of PCs. Percevault believes that WinINSTALL is an excellent solution because it scales well, replicates the master database to school databases, and addresses a heterogeneous computer fleet.

### Swift rollout benefits schools large and small

“We have had very few issues with our rollout—one per school per week, starting in October,” said Percevault “Without the Scalable solution, we would not be able to be in an out of a school in a couple of days. Also, archiving the MSI packages required much less server space, as opposed to a Ghost image library.”

“Having been in a Novell ZENworks world, we’ve created packages, and pushed packages down,” explained Smith. “With the same types of packages, WinINSTALL is considerably easier. I definitely agree that WinINSTALL is the way to go on the Windows side.”

“Today we can build a machine from scratch—any small change is easy,” Smith continued. “It’s just no big issue to change or replicate machines. Everybody’s happy because we are saving time.”

“WinINSTALL is providing tons of good will,” said Percevault. “Our school personnel (teachers, support staff and administrators) continue to praise my staff on their ability to cutover schools in record time with minimal follow up issues—all contingent on Scalable’s WinINSTALL.”

### Getting the word out: other districts now use WinINSTALL

“We discovered a fantastic product. It is doing what it is supposed to. And we can’t say enough good things about the training and support we got from Scalable,” continued Smith. “With this product, your only limitation is your imagination. Whatever you need to do—with some knowledge—you can do it.”

Percevault’s recommendations have resulted in two other Alberta school districts turning to WinINSTALL for their desktop management. One was a Microsoft shop that needed centralized management capabilities, the other a rural school district that was also moving from Novell to Microsoft. “Greg showed them what we were doing with WinINSTALL, and they were convinced,” he said. “It’s a great product, so it is easy to get the word out,” Percevault said.

Currently the school district uses Windows XP is on the desktop, but will eventually migrate to Windows Vista. Percevault said, “In our weekly meetings, our technical staff continually makes positive comments about WinINSTALL. They truly appreciate what WinINSTALL does. It has been pivotal for our Microsoft Server 2003 rollout. This product has proved itself—it is a great solution.”



North America Headquarters  
14100 Southwest Freeway  
Suite 400  
Sugar Land, Texas 77478  
Tel 713 316 4900  
Toll 866 722 5225  
Fax 713 316 4975

International Headquarters  
Gainsborough House  
2 Sheen Road  
Richmond Surrey TW91AE  
United Kingdom  
Tel +44 844 736 5214  
Fax +44 844 736 5894

Scalable Software  
9148 Bonita Beach Road  
Suite 210  
Bonita Springs, Florida 34135  
Tel 239 495 0541  
Fax 239 498 7344

Web [www.scalable.com](http://www.scalable.com)  
E-Mail [info@scalable.com](mailto:info@scalable.com)