

Lärande Schools Streamline Mobility Management with AirWatch

The Client

Lärande i Sverige AB (Lärande) is a Swedish group of private schools that specialise in primary and secondary education. The educational group, which has approximately 3,500 students ranging from kindergarten to high school, owns and operates 17 schools across Sweden and employs 500 teachers and administrative staff members.

Lärande prides itself on using research-backed pedagogy and a holistic approach to teaching and learning, with a focus on modern technology, entrepreneurial learning and healthy living. The group encourages students to use technology to unleash the limitless prospects of learning, and to develop their creativity by continuously seeking and critically evaluating learning material.

The Challenge

When Lärande was founded in 1999 with only two schools under its management, it was fairly easy for the IT technicians to travel between these educational institutions to maintain the IT systems. As a forward thinking educational group, Lärande equipped its schools with an advanced IT infrastructure, including wireless Internet, to allow students to access the schools' virtual learning services. To empower students to work independently and enable them to learn at their own pace, Lärande procured and distributed school-owned iPads. The devices keep pupils engaged in their studies and bring learning closer to their fingertips.

However, due to rapid growth and geographical expansion in recent years, the IT department found it difficult to manage and maintain IT assets across 17 schools, which are spread out across the country. "With the fast growth that we experienced, we felt the need for a more practical and centralised administration of our IT assets in general, and our students' mobile devices in particular," said Ole Lidegran, chief information officer, Lärande.

To better manage its mobile assets, Lärande considered adopting an enterprise mobility management (EMM) solution and initially experimented with free mobile device management products. After briefly testing these options, the group's IT management realised that the solutions were unstable, lacked technical support and were unable to cater to the schools' growing EMM needs. "We were introduced to AirWatch through our



Lärande

Solution Overview

- Client: Lärande i Sverige AB
- Industry: Education
- Geography: Sweden
- Features: MDM, MAM, MEM
- Infrastructure Integrations: Apple VPP Programme
- Devices: 1,000 – 5,000



Swedish technology partner, Caperio,” explained Mr. Lidegran. “AirWatch offered a free trial period, which we used to test its capabilities prior to deciding that this was the right solution for our needs.”

The Solution

Lärande uses AirWatch[®] by VMware[®] to manage 800 school-owned iPads and has plans to scale the deployment to 3,500 devices in the future. With AirWatch, Lärande’s IT department is now able to remotely manage students’ iPads without the need to send IT technicians to individual schools, which has saved time and resources. For instance, if Mr. Lidegran needs to make a change in the email server settings, he is able to push those configurations remotely and wirelessly to all the devices from the AirWatch console. “Using AirWatch has saved our IT technicians a considerable amount of time, which was previously spent traveling to individual schools to carry out the necessary updates and maintenance,” stated Mr. Lidegran.

From an educational perspective, Lärande’s IT department is now able to safely and remotely push learning applications, email and Wi-Fi configurations to students’ devices. Thanks to the integration that AirWatch provides with the Apple VPP programme, Lärande can manage the licenses for purchased educational apps for students from year six to year 18. “We have an experienced team of teachers who look at the various stages of learning, install apps according to students’ ages and manage them through the AirWatch console,” confirmed Mr. Lindegran. “This ensures our students have the appropriate apps to meet their learning requirements.”

Using AirWatch[®] Mobile Device Management, the group’s IT department is able to manage the security settings on students’ devices and has visibility into the type of content being accessed through mobile devices across the group’s cluster of schools. If a device is lost or stolen, Mr. Lidegran can remotely lock the device or wipe its contents to prevent any security breaches to Lärande’s corporate network.

Up Next

Lärande is planning a trial of AirWatch[®] Teacher Tools, which enables teachers to guide mobile learning by managing student devices, apps and content using a simple interface. The group also plans to open three new schools in 2015, and will explore the possibility of using AirWatch to manage and distribute apps to teaching and administrative staff’s Macs and PCs.

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