

Identity Management Case Study

Blue Chip Consulting Group implements ILM 2007 to help a Metropolitan School District manage student identities.

Overview

Location

Cleveland, Ohio, USA

Customer Profile

Large metropolitan school district with over 50,000 students.

Business Situation

A new technology implementation creates a requirement for all students to have their own login into Active Directory and group membership based on course assignments.

Solution

ILM 2007 was implemented to create an Active Directory account for every qualified student and map course assignments from the Student Information System to group memberships in AD. This allowed students to login to any "Universal Student Desktop" in the school system and automatically receive their assigned course material.

Benefits

- Automated account provisioning and de-provisioning
- Automated management of groups and group memberships
- Zero touch administration
- De-centralized support model
- Significant cost savings
- Speed of implementation

The Business Problem

The Metropolitan School District was in the midst of a five-year strategic technology plan to enhance the level of student education. The current infrastructure was not able to support such a major technological shift. Students were now required to have their very own Active Directory login and a large number of groups were required not only to implement security policy but also manage student course assignment and delivery. The administrative overhead required to manage 50,000+ student accounts and 10,000 groups would put an incredible burden on the current administrative staff.

The Solution

Blue Chip worked with the customer to document the requirements and propose a solution that would not only meet the requirements, but also add additional functionality not originally considered. Some existing administrative overhead that was required to manage things such as the "WinSnap" student food service system could now be managed by ILM. The end result was a large increase in functionality with an overall reduced administrative cost.

For this solution, Blue Chip proposed Microsoft Identity Lifecycle Manager (ILM) 2007. ILM could connect to the required systems using out of the box management agents. The large group requirement would be handled by custom management agents created by Blue Chip.

ILM was implemented quickly to allow for the existing technology implementation efforts to stay on track.

The following systems were included in this ILM implementation:

- Microsoft Active Directory
- Oracle Database Server
- Microsoft SQL Server

The Benefits

The primary benefits of this implementation for the Metropolitan School District included:

- Automated Account Provisioning and De-provisioning
Automated provisioning not only reduces administrative overhead, but also gives the students the required core system access without the standard waiting period. Automated de-provisioning greatly increases security by removing access to systems that is not required.
- Automated Management of Groups and Group Memberships
The requirement to manage almost 10,000 constantly changing groups was completely automated by ILM.
- Zero Touch Administration
The implemented solution obtained 100% automation and requires zero administrator intervention.
- De-centralized Support Model
Blue Chip was able to create a custom web interface into the ILM 2007 system to allow for standard student account support, such as password resets, to be handled at the respective schools and not require any help desk involvement.
- Significant Cost Savings
The ILM 2007 solution was significantly less expensive to implement than other available solutions.
- Speed of Implementation
The speed at which ILM 2007 can be implemented allowed the existing technology implementation efforts to stay on track.

Microsoft
Identity Lifecycle
Manager 2007

