

GRAPHON HELPS NOBEL PEACE PRIZE WINNER EXTEND GLOBAL REACH.



Handicap International Relies on GO-Global for Fast and Efficient Remote Access to Centralized Windows Applications.

Customer Solution at a Glance

Customer Profile: Handicap International provides aid and services to people with disabilities and those at risk.

Business Need: The organization required an efficient, inexpensive way for headquarters and overseas personnel to access Windows applications and share information.

GraphOn Solution: Incorporating advanced server-centric technology and near zero-footprint clients, GO-Global® for Windows publishes applications for easy access by any authorized client, regardless of location or platform.

Results:

- Reduced costs and complexities
- Simplified application deployment and administration
- Outstanding performance, even over slow, overseas modem connections
- Ability to use older PCs to access and run new applications

Handicap International is a worldwide charitable organization aiding disabled individuals in countries affected by poverty and conflict. With operations in 60 countries, Handicap International provides services in the areas of rehabilitation, inclusion of disabled people, and disability prevention – including landmine clearance, traffic accidents and diseases. The organization is co-founder of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines, which was awarded the 1997 Nobel Peace Prize.

With staff and volunteers spread to the four corners of the Earth, Handicap International faced a number of IT challenges related to network infrastructure, information sharing, and application deployment. In order to reduce operating costs, simplify support activities, and improve access to Windows applications, the organization recently deployed a highly-efficient GO-Global solution.



Access to Applications Anywhere.

**HANDICAP
INTERNATIONAL**

Once Handicap International had determined that a server-centric IT infrastructure would make the most sense for the organization, the IT staff evaluated both Citrix Presentation Server and Microsoft Windows Terminal Services (WTS) as possible solutions. They quickly determined, however, that these products were not only too expensive, but also overly complicated.

“What we really needed was a simple, server-based computing solution that would allow us to centralize our Windows applications for easy access from a wide range of desktops, laptops and thin clients literally spread around the world,” said David Meuleman, IT Director at Handicap International.

The GO-Global Alternative

“In researching alternative solutions, we determined that GO-Global from GraphOn appeared to be a very good match for our needs,” stated Meuleman.

Applications published through GO-Global can be accessed from any authorized client device. The published applications are seamlessly integrated with the user’s desktop. Although applications are installed on the server, they look, feel and perform as if installed locally on the client machine. Applications are accessed in their native format, with 100% of their existing features and functionality.

Testing GO-Global over Low Bandwidth Connections

To make sure that the solution would be a viable one, Handicap International conducted a series of tests using GO-Global’s remote access capabilities from overseas field operations in Burundi and Vietnam to its headquarters in Brussels. Even though they were using slow 56K modems over less than ideal connections, they were impressed with the response times and overall performance.

“We were quite pleased with GO-Global’s outstanding performance – even over slow dial-up connections – as well as the product’s simple management tools,” continued Meuleman.

Deploying the Solution

Based on the successful test results, Handicap International selected GO-Global for Windows. The organization deployed the solution in its Brussels headquarters on an HP DL360 dual-processor server running Windows 2003 Server.

“GO-Global helps us improve our efficiency and the quality of our activities – through better communications and better information sharing.”

David Meuleman
IT Director
Handicap International

Today, GO-Global is used to publish Microsoft Office, Microsoft SharePoint Services, and Navision accounting applications to personnel working in the headquarters office, staff working from home, and remote overseas users.

Eliminating Synchronization

“Prior to GO-Global, we spent a lot of time synchronizing data among our overseas field offices and headquarters,” said Meuleman. “Now, our field offices can work directly with the centralized applications and data. From an accounting standpoint, we’re now able to work more efficiently and close our books more rapidly for each period.”

Supporting Older PC Clients

In underdeveloped countries, an older Windows 95 PC with 64 MB continues to be a valuable piece of equipment. GO-Global’s ability to publish state-of-the-art applications to older client desktops means that Handicap International is able to extend the lifecycle of older desktop machines.

“PCs in our overseas sites include everything you’ll find in the Microsoft world – Windows 95, 98, 98SE, Millennium, 2000 and XP, so the fact that GO-Global supports just about every client platform imaginable made a big difference in our selection,” said Meuleman.

Added Advantages

With GO-Global, Handicap International has not only improved performance and optimized its IT infrastructure, the organization has also simplified global network administration. Application issues can now be resolved at the server level, not at each client desktop. And unlike traditional distributed applications, GO-Global’s architecture keeps applications and data secure behind the firewall. Only the application’s user interface is transmitted to the remote clients. For improved security, all transmissions are fully encrypted using 256-bit AES encryption and proxy server tunneling.

“GO-Global helps us help the world,” concluded Meuleman.



 **GraphOn®**

Access to Applications Anywhere.

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