

Case Study

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The Bournemouth & Poole College

The College base in Bournemouth and Poole have approximately 11,000+ students attending the various courses from English & Maths through to various forms of engineering and construction. The College has 3 main stores location held within its Poole site consisting of;

- Hair & Beauty
- Plumbing & Fabrication
- Marine, Mechanical Engineering & Motor Trade

It's within the Marine, Mechanical & Motor Trade store room that Poole College were experiencing a few issues which could have turned into quite a serious problem if a solution wasn't put in place. The problems were that Students would remove a specific tool or various tools from the store room and at the end of a lesson the college was experiencing the odd tool go missing. The more serious problem was that the tool in question that was required by a student was in this instance a mains powered drill and the Drill had a damaged mains cable with an exposed live wire. This could have caused an electric shock if it wasn't spotted in time by the college stores person.

So the college needed to put some safety measures in place and BIAS Technology Support Limited (who had an Apprentice attending an Electronics course at the college) were asked to come in and give advice on the best route forward.

The BIAS systems team, organised the project stake holders, from end users to department heads to be gathered together and collated to complete set of system requirements, in order to produce a bespoke software and hardware solution.

The system hardware currently includes a server hosting the database and incorporates both desktop PCs and mobile devices which host the client applications.

Using the information gathered during the requirements specification phase the deployed software system incorporates the following features:

- Asset location tracking.
- Asset inspection check enforcement.
- Asset PAT (Portable Appliance Testing) check enforcement.
- User training enforcement.
- Prevention of duplicate item issue.
- Asset isolation via locked locations.
- Bulk user data imports (as a course enrolls).
- Bulk user data clearance (as a course ends).
- Detailed reporting including:
 - Unreturned asset reports.
 - User activity history.
 - Asset maintenance reports.

Following the system's deployment there have been no reported safety issues with the assets under the system's control, improving safety for the staff and students and protecting the college from potential litigation.

Being a learning institution which is constantly innovating, Poole College's requirements are ever changing and BIAS continues to listen and respond, recently adding an additional feature to the mobile device's client application to improve user efficiency.

The Bournemouth & Poole College are now looking to introduce the same solution in all of its remaining Store areas and recommend the system to other learning institutions.