



The Casper Suite and Education

Mac Support Made Easy



School systems host some of the largest populations of Apple computers in the world. School system administrators face the challenge of centrally managing thousands - or tens of thousands - of machines across multiple locations, with strict budgetary control. By choosing supporting technology wisely, school districts enable teachers, administrators and IT support staff to spend time on meaningful, interactive tasks like teaching and training instead of routine computer housekeeping. The Casper Suite enables your district or university to support Apple laptops and desktops in compliance with school policies by automating maintenance tasks and streamlining large projects. With the Casper Suite in place, your IT department can remain supportive, flexible and reliable while increasing the number of computers you can easily support.

The Casper Suite is the only fully featured client management software solution developed exclusively for the Mac platform and allows your IT department to provide affordable, enterprise level support for all your Macs and Apple mobile devices. The Casper Suite unifies the central functions of client management into an integrated system to provide one window into your Mac support world. The Casper Suite includes all the tools to image new Macs, inventory Apple computers and mobile devices, track software licensing and usage, automate software updates, deploy new software, manage settings, provide remote support and much more. The Casper Suite allows your school district or university to grow its population of fast, fun, and powerful Apple computers without growing your IT department.

Snow Leopard Compatible



Made & Supported
in the USA

JAMF
software 

Pricing

JAMF Software offers significant purchasing discounts to higher education and K-12 organizations. The Casper Suite is licensed per managed Mac with a 70% discount off the license cost for higher education and a 100% discount for K12 education. K12 educators pay only the per seat Annual Maintenance cost, which also includes volume discounts.

At JAMF Software, we believe in the benefits that Apple computers can bring to education. We also think that educators and students using Macs deserve the first class technical support possible through the Casper Suite. That's why we do everything we can to provide a solution designed for Macs and scaled for large school systems, at a price that is affordable.

Features

Imaging

The Casper Suite includes all the tools you need to build packages, create package-based configurations and to image new machines from the ground up. This highly evolved toolset includes all the bells and whistles for imaging, including automated drive partitioning, bootcamp support, directory binding at imaging time, and much more. With the Casper Suite, IT can easily plan and execute imaging on a large scale.

Patch Management

Applying updates to every computer on your network can be a time consuming task that needs to be done multiple times per year. The Casper Suite allows you to schedule releases during "off" hours in order to minimize the impact this process can have on your end users. In emergencies, administrators can also release or force patches immediately. The Casper Suite also integrates seamlessly with Apple's Software Update Server (SUS), whether your organization hosts an internal SUS or looks to an external server for updates.

Software Distribution

Software distribution is easy with the Casper Suite, no matter what the situation. With multiple strategies to distribute applications to end users, the Casper Suite allows you to respond appropriately to every situation. The Casper Suite's Policy Engine allows you to schedule software deployments to any of your managed computers using a web browser. Casper Remote and VNC enables your helpdesk to respond immediately to your end users' requests. End users can also use the Casper Suite's Self Service application to install their own software. Using Self Service, end users are not required to have administrative access to install software or printers and see only updates authorized by IT.

Remote Control

CasperVNC allows technicians to control client machines remotely to provide issue resolution for machines in the next room or miles away. Remote control saves the organization time, staff and budget by minimizing end user down time, IT travel time and expenses, and by allowing each technician to resolve more incidents every day. CasperVNC is secure because it is encrypted, centrally authenticated and logs every transaction.

Inventory

A school system's hardware and software purchases represent a significant investment. The Casper Suite provides a full, automatically updating inventory of Macs, PCs, iPhones and iPod Touches that is reportable and searchable. Inventory can be customized to report on computer attributes important in your environment – such as back up or antivirus status. Because inventory is integrated into the full Casper management framework, all this information can be used to notify administrators of system events, trigger automatic fixes or to scope out management tasks.

Software License Management

Every organization needs to be able to easily maintain and prove software licensing compliance. The Casper Suite can track how many copies of a software title your school owns and how many copies are deployed onto school computers. If there are overages, IT is automatically notified to take action.

Software Usage Tracking

Software is valuable and can be expensive. An easy way to control costs is to ensure that the school district is only purchasing the software that it needs. By tracking usage of certain software titles, administrators can easily determine where unused software is deployed and take action to lower seat counts or to allocate these assets to other users. Restricting the use of illegal or unauthorized applications is made simple with the Casper Suite. IT can set Restricted Software settings that remove applications and notify IT when violations occur.

Settings Management

With the ability to modify end user environments and Managed Preferences from a central location, your IT department can respond to a variety of demands as rapidly as they arise. The Casper Suite manages both system and user-level preferences through a simple user interface, scoping preferences to Computer Groups, User Groups from a directory service, Buildings, or Departments. Managed Preferences (also known as MCX) allow you to natively enforce the individual settings on any client computer. Over 250 default preferences are included with the JAMF Software Server (JSS).

Scalability

School systems manage some of the largest installations of Macs around. That's why the Casper Suite has developed and tested its large network performance within the K-12 environment. Thanks to these efforts, the Casper Suite has been proven to perform quickly and reliably in environments with tens of thousands of client machines.

Solutions

One to One Support

One computer for each student. This concept has gained ground with educators as a way to improve both student engagement in learning and standardized test scores. When the IT staff works with the district to design a one to one program there are many choices to be made in the technology plan and policy guidelines. The district needs to determine which policies can be automatically enforced by technology and which policies must be enforced through teacher and student behavior.

The Casper Suite can help administrators support large numbers of laptop computers by streamlining imaging projects, scheduling routine tasks based on client check in schedules and maintaining an accurate, up to date inventory. See <http://www.jamfsoftware.com/solutions/one-to-one/> for more information on how the Casper Suite can help your school make the most of it's one to one program.

Lab Management

The Casper Suite has a full range of tools for lab management that allows you to maintain preferred user preferences between logins, to heal software titles that may be damaged or erased and to reimage lab machines easily and automatically. To maintain healthy, current Mac labs, many schools use the Casper Suite to reimage machines automatically during off hours. Casper administrators can also reset the user environment settings for machines with multiple users to make sure a computer is ready for each new user. If a student personalizes a machine during use, the next student gets a standard, refreshed look.

Many schools are faced with the challenge of keeping some software titles off lab machines. Whether it's illegal music sharing programs or instant messaging programs not permitted in classrooms, the Casper Suite can detect the process when it is launched on a machine. What happens next is your call: Casper can send you a message, send a message to the user, kill the process, delete the application, or all of the above. To learn more about lab management strategies go to <http://www.jamfsoftware.com/sales/lab-management>



More Information

To learn more about the Casper Suite, visit www.jamfsoftware.com or email info@jamfsoftware.com.