

e-Campus Vs Traditional Software

e-Campus

Traditional Software

Architecture

Web Centric

Client/server.

Overall Cost

You may buy e-Campus or you may rent it from us. We normally suggest our customers to rent the software to minimize overall up-front cost. When you rent it from us, you need not buy computer servers or third party software such as database. You only pay us a monthly rental based on the amount of data handled (proportional to the number of students in your institute). We provide you the server, database and all associated software and we maintain it for you including daily data backups. This means you can start using your 'own' e-Campus application for few thousand rupees per month. Due to this, it is affordable for a school with few hundred students. If you buy it, we can host it in a data center for you, which will save you on server computer cost and other third party software costs.

In the case of most client/server applications, you need to buy following

- Buy application software license
- Buy computer servers to install it
- Buy third party software such as Operating system, database server to store the data etc.

All these software are installed on a local server. This means you need additional expertise to manage the server and its installed software including regular backing up of data and other maintenance tasks. All the above add to the overall cost of buying and maintaining the application. The minimum investment will work out to few lakhs of rupees and periodical maintenance costs.

Try it

Do you want to try e-Campus now? Just give us a call on 080-25503227 or email as at ecampus@nexatecsolutions.com and we will configure a trial account instantly so that you can login to the application and try it right away. All you need is a PC with an internet connection. Within the next one hour, you should be able to use e-Campus without any obligation. In fact this demonstrates, how quickly you can start using e-Campus application.

To try a traditional software, some one from the software company has to come to your institute, identify computers to install it, then install and configure the application with a database. This can take days and weeks.

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Functionality – What it does

e-Campus manages student, staff, library, accounting and other institute data like any other traditional application. In addition, you may publish internal documents in a secure way. For example, you may publish a document '*How to interact with parents, Dos and Donts*' and then all your teachers can have access this document once they login to the application. It also have electronic bulletin/notice boards, e-Messaging between institute and parents/students etc. It not only manages your information similar to a traditional software, it creates an information revolution within your institute. Any information you want your audience to know, let it be staff, teachers, parents or students, it can be published.

Most of the traditional application would have functions to handle normal student, staff and institute information. But it may not have facilities to publish internal documents in a secured manner or on-line messaging between the teachers and parents or students.

Usage by Staff/ Teachers/ Management

e-Campus software can be used from anywhere at anytime as long as there is an Internet connection. For example a Teacher can enter marks from his/her home if she has a PC and internet connection at home. Teacher can review various students performance during weekends or extended holidays and plan corrective actions for in-efficient students. Management can review performance of their institutes from their own office, i.e without visiting each school premises.

Software can be used only from institute premises via a Local Area Network (LAN). This means, teacher or staff or management has to be in school premises to use the software. This means the software can be used only during school hours.

Accessing information by Parents/ students

e-Campus is fully on web, hence parents/students can login and see their information (only theirs) at any time as soon as the information is updated by staff or teachers. There is no extra work to be done. This enhances the parents interaction with the institute and also create a sense of 'openness' in the minds of parents. Parents or students can view any documents published (eg. About uniforms) , check any messages send to them (eg. School is organising a picnic for class 8) , view student's examination or assessment marks, view their attendance, check Fee status (Due vs Paid) etc.

Some of the traditional client/server application may have a separate piece of software for parents/students to login. This software works as a separate add-on and hence the data from main system have to be copied to the sub system (web interface) periodically. This is an additional task to be performed by technical personnel and not always convenient.

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On-line visibility

You normally have a web site which advertise about your school. e-Campus helps you to take it to the next level of online visibility because e-Campus is on the web and configured with your own Institute name/logo. When your staff, teachers or parents or students login, all important screens prominently shows your own institute logo/name. It looks as though it is your own on-line application irrespective of whether you buy the application from us or you rent it from us. It enhances on-line visibility of institute, which indirectly contributes to the Institute's technological achievements and modern outlook

A traditional application is installed within the institute premises, hence there is no on-line visibility

Implementation – how fast it can happen

e-Campus can be quickly implemented, the reason being that you need not have to buy any server computers or other software and there is no software to be installed on each PC. As soon as you sign up with us, we can configure your institute details in few hours and you can start using e-Campus hosted from data center. All you need is PCs or even laptop computers having Internet connectivity.

With a traditional application, you need to buy computers and other software to install that application. You also require the software to be installed on every PC and configure that to connect to the server computer. This can lead to considerable delays in implementation of the package.

Ease of use

User friendliness mainly depends on the design of the application. e-Campus data entry screens are as easier and feature rich as traditional client/server application. Normally a web application is used for simple jobs which does not involve large amount of data capturing screens. This is due to inherent nature of the browser software, as it was meant for viewing information, not to capture large amount of data. But that has changed over a period of time. You need to see to believe it, e-Campus look and feel is as good as any other traditional client/server application in terms of instant data validations, drop down list boxes to choose data from a range of values etc.

Normally a client/server applications can have better user friendly features due to the facilities available in tools used to develop these applications. This is especially true when it comes to an ERP application where there are many screens with quite a lot of data entry functions. But as mentioned earlier, it all depends on the design of the application.

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Installation of the Software on a Server computer

e-Campus software can be installed within school premises on an internal server computer or it can be installed on any server computer connected to Internet. When you rent the software from us, we install and host it in a highly secured data center where servers of other big corporates are maintained. You can start using e-Campus application within hours of signing up with us.

Client/server Software can only be installed on a server computer within the institute premises having a Local Area Network (LAN). Before doing this, you need to arrange server computer and other software, so it can take few days to few weeks to get started

Software installation on each user PC

In the case of e-Campus, there is nothing to install on each PC, all a PC requires is an Internet Browser to use e-Campus application. Browser software comes pre-installed on all PCs or you can download it freely from Internet and install it. You also have choice of using your preferred browser, either Microsoft Internet Explorer or Mozilla Firefox.

To use a Client/server type software, it has to be installed on each user PC, in addition to server installation This requires a technical person to install the client version on each PC and configure that to connect to the server computer. This adds to the overall maintenance and every time a new user needs to have access to application, the technical person has to install a copy on that PC. This again can result in delays in overall implementation.

Support

e-Campus support personnel can login anytime as long as he/she is allowed, through Internet and support the users if any usage problem or any other issues arise. Issues are attended instantly as the support personnel always connected to Internet and he/she can view the issue as an end user sees it. There is no need for support personnel to visit the institute premise.

In case of traditional software, any support issues, the support personnel has to visit the premises to understand the problem. It can take hours to days to solve a problem.

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Security

Internet applications are much more secure today comparing few years ago. There are many utilities and equipments available to secure the software and the computer, such as Firewall, virus guards, encrypt data etc. All software which guard the server are updated on-line on a regular basis. The world is moving towards on-line application. For example, in the near future, you will be managing your bank account mainly through internet. So the security concerns are addressed.

Since the application is installed on a server within the school premises, it can be argued that the software and its data are more secure. But it is possible to get infected with viruses or other malicious software. The local network may be already connected to Internet and there is a possibility that some one from outside can access the computer as internal precautions taken are seldom adequate.

Privacy of data

Each e-Campus customer is configured with their own database. Hence there is no compromise on privacy of the data. Normal on-line application use one database between various customers. But that is not the case with e-Campus. In other words, e-Campus is configured as your own application with your institute logo/name, database etc., only difference is that we maintain it for you so that you can concentrate on managing your institute while we take care of your software and its maintenance.

Traditional application data is residing in an internal computer server within the Institute premises. So the data is privately kept.

Infrastructure

e-Campus is hosted in one of the best data centers in India. Data centers are specialized facility to maintain computer servers for its customers. Data centers houses 100s of server computers of multi-nationals/big corporates including some of the banks. It has redundant facilities for power, telecommunication, security, fire protection etc. Even a multi-national company cannot match the infrastructure capability of a data center, this is the reason even big companies host their servers in a data center.

A traditional application is installed within the Institute and the computer infrastructure such as power conditioning, air conditioning, fire protection etc would be minimal. So chances of disruptions are high.

About us : *NexaTec/NeoSoft* specializes in the design and development of enterprise application software solutions, mainly in the areas of Logistics, Manufacturing and Education.

For more information about e-Campus or to arrange a demo,

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