



Rudolph and Sletten Extends Laptop Life Span by Converting to the Speedy and Durable SSD Technology

"Some of the advantages that we have noticed once a laptop has been converted to a SSD is that the boot up process is much faster. So, in the past, users would turn on the computer, go get their coffee, come back, log in; now, they don't have a chance to get their coffee anymore. The computer boots up at a much faster rate than a regular drive"

Janno Khachian,
Client Services Manager,
Rudolph and Sletten



Challenges

- The dusty, rugged environment of Rudolph and Sletten's construction jobsites is a workplace hazard for their laptops' conventional hard-disk drives (HDDs).
- Employees using laptops move frequently from trailer to trailer at each jobsite, further endangering the moving parts inside a HDD, therefore, experiencing a short laptop lifespan.
- Long bootup times and cumbersome performance of HDDs lead to development of inefficient work processes.

Solution

- Installing solid-state drives (SSDs) in its existing fleet of laptops to upgrade from hard disk drives (HDD).

Results

- Longer life span for company laptops, reducing the number of laptops that need to be purchased each year.
- Long-term IT cost savings due to reduced internal tech support and fewer help desk calls.
- Increased employee satisfaction arising from enhanced laptop performance and faster boot up time.



"We looked at SSDs and we put them in some of the laptop computers and found that we could extend the life of a laptop by another two or three years and get additional return on investment for the laptop rentals"

Sam Lamonica, Chief Information Officer, Rudolph and Sletten

Background

Leading diverse and high-impact construction projects for almost half a century, Rudolph and Sletten is a leader in California construction, building everything from biotech laboratories and medical facilities to corporate campuses and educational institutions. The company recognizes that as technology progresses so do the needs of construction. Adapting to these needs has allowed Rudolph and Sletten to stay on the cutting edge of technology while providing quality-oriented general contracting and construction management services.

Dirt, Dust, and HDDs

Rudolph and Sletten's IT crew noticed that laptops equipped with HDDs were vulnerable to the many hazards of the company's rugged, dirty jobsites. HDDs are made of moving mechanical parts that seek and find data on a spinning set of disks. These moving parts increase the chances for laptop drive failure.

Rudolph and Sletten leadership also noted that since

employees on jobsites often move from building to building to conduct safety inspections and note project management milestones on "punch lists," their laptops were subject to frequent jostling and occasional spills. Again, the HDD-based PCs' performance was constantly deteriorating, requiring ongoing repairs and maintenance.

Finally, the sluggish bootup process caused by the HDD slowed productivity for employees who needed to turn their laptops on and off frequently throughout the day.

SSDs Extend Laptop Life Span

Replacing conventional hard-disk drives with SSDs is a prime example of Rudolph and Sletten's commitment to using the latest technology to streamline operations and lower costs and increase laptops ROI while ensuring a quality result for its customers.

Rudolph and Sletten is now installing SSDs in their laptop systems, enabling users to work faster and more efficiently, while the company saves money by adding years to the life of each laptop.

Sam Lamonica, Chief Information Officer at Rudolph and Sletten explains: *"The way that SSDs help us save money is actually by helping us make money. We are able to rent our laptops to the jobsites and if I can keep a laptop out at a jobsite for two or three additional years by replacing the traditional hard drive with an SSD, I make that much more monthly revenue on that particular laptop. So it's a win for us".*

Longer-Term Gains Seen Through a Variety of Cost Savings

Besides the hard-to-quantify cost benefits of increasing workforce satisfaction, Janno Khachian, Client Services Manager at Rudolph and Sletten noted significant cost savings in many forms:

- Laptops with SSDs were noticeably more reliable, cutting down on repair costs and maintenance costs, not to mention fewer help desk calls from end users.
- Another way SSDs will save Rudolph and Sletten money is on reimaging. *“Almost every year we have to reimage a conventional drive because of the usage and corruption of data. With SSDs, there is much less chance of doing that hardly ever”* says Khachian.

Upgrading from HDD to SSD Yields Immediate Spike in Productivity

With the support of a forward-thinking executive management team who follow the company’s technology-friendly philosophy, Client Services Manager Janno Khachian replaced the HDDs in existing company laptops with solid-state Drives.

With no mechanical components, flash based SSDs are far more rugged, durable and reliable. They also require less cooling and less power than HDDs, and contribute to faster and more efficient PC performance.

The benefits to Rudolph and Sletten were immediate, with boot-up time decreasing

dramatically from 2½ minutes to 25 seconds. There was a chorus of approval from employees who noticed the speedier boot-up time right away, *“Access time for applications is definitely faster as well,”* says Khachian.

A Hit with IT Staff

Benefits weren’t limited to staff and end users, Khachian noted. SSDs proved to be very easy to install—simply remove the old drive, insert the new one, reinstall the operating system and copy the data to the SSD. Therefore, the IT could easily make the switch, with no additional burden on their workload.

SSD Benefits

- Deferring the cost of a new laptop purchase by upgrading to a SSD
- Better performance than a new HDD based laptop
- Fast boot-up and application launch time
- Fast and steady performance, even as the operating system ages and the media fills up
- High reliability
- More rugged due to lack of mechanical parts
- Less risk of data loss due to higher durability
- Lower power consumption
- Cool, quiet operation



For more information, please visit: www.sandisk.com/ssd

About SanDisk SSDs

SanDisk offers a line of products that is shifting a growing range of markets from the hard-disk drive to Flash-based storage, including mobile computing, desktops, netbooks and blade servers. SanDisk SSD product families deliver far superior durability and higher performance, such as OS boot and application load. As the cost of Flash declines dramatically, users can now benefit from an enhanced overall experience, and IT can save money and improve budgets while maintaining efficient user support.

* Third party testimonials are used with authorization and relate to the solid state drive (SSD) general product category

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