

With *SoftXpand* Libraries, Provide all libraries' patrons with access to computers

Providing libraries' patrons with access to the Internet, library catalogs, online databases, and Microsoft Office programs is indispensable for a librarian in today's world.

The problem is that it would be very expensive to purchase enough up-to-date PCs to satisfy all libraries' patrons. Moreover, PCs purchased a few years ago are out-of-date and not adapted to today's software. Finally, it is expensive and time-consuming to maintain and support multiple PCs with many configurations.



SoftXpand Libraries is the only solution that can help you solve these problems.

What is *SoftXpand* Libraries?

SoftXpand Libraries is a software solution that turns 1 Windows based computer into up to 8 fully independent computer workstations, using **ONLY** standard screens, keyboards and mice.

SoftXpand works with standard hardware and is totally transparent to patrons who work with standard Windows^{XP}.

You can therefore equip 1 PC with access to all necessary information and expand its usage to up to 8 patrons simultaneously.

How does it work?

Use a standard PC, add extra video cards, and connect the computer monitors, keyboards and mice to the workstations.

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How can 1 standard PC be turned into up to 8 independent workstations without any degradation in performance?

- *SoftXpand's* proprietary, unique resource sharing & intelligent balancing system allows full utilization of PC's power and cleverly allocates resources.
- Video cards are nowadays equipped with a powerful Graphics Processing Unit (GPU) and Video memory (VRAM). *SoftXpand* uses this power and balances it automatically between the workstations according to the applications' needs.





SoftXpand Benefits for Libraries

Cost Savings

- Create 8 PC workstations from 1 computer: maximize the number of patrons using computers without buying extra PCs
- Save Money: reduce your total cost of ownership (TCO) by up to 70%
- Save IT Staff Time: have more patrons use PCs while spending less time administering
- Save money on additional hardware: any hardware installed on the PC (e.g. restoration card) is shared with the other workstations.
- Cost reduction in energy consumption: less computers and less heat in the libraries
- Save money on software licenses purchase*

*Subject to software licenses

Functionality and Flexibility

- Add/withdraw workstations easily according to your needs
- Easily add and withdraw devices (disk on key, printers, cameras, etc.) on workstations
- Create a library network: workstations are connected in what we call a *SoftXpand* cluster: a group of workstations connected to a PC (with *SoftXpand* installed). By connecting *SoftXpand* clusters together, you can create a library network of 24 to 40 workstations with only 4 PCs

Facilitate Administration and Maintenance

- Reset all workstations to their original state whenever needed
- Configure 1 PC and prevent the workstations' users from making any changes
- Centralized control: administer up to 8 workstations from 1 PC
- Define folder access rights so that users' content is private on each workstation
- Protect workstations: set password, or time-expiration per workstation
- Remote desktop management: MiniFrame local partners or other IT support organization can efficiently:
 - o Standardize your desktop environment
 - o Deploy applications easily: manage all desktop installations and changes
 - o Provide remote hardware and software support
 - o Provide a single point of contact for all end user IT enquiries
- Easy to maintain: only one PC instead of 8 to upgrade, configure, repair, etc.
- Easy to deploy applications: on 1 PC instead of 8
- Reduce downtime: when one workstation crashes, you don't need to reboot the PC