Founded in 1982, the University of Brescia is a young public university with strong international aspirations and leadership prospects. The university is divided into four faculties - Medicine and Surgery, Engineering, Economics and Management, Law. Today the University offers 24 bachelor’s degree programs, four single-cycle programs and seventeen master’s degree programs, five of which are in English. The student population is currently around 15,000, teaching staff comprise 565 first and second professors and researchers, whilst staff consists of 485 members.

"By having chosen Canon and uniFLOW as key solution, we have been able to harmonize our printing environment whilst significantly increasing user experience and providing a new printing ecosystem that fits all students, teachers and staff needs."

Dott. Andrea Marinoni, CIO – Ing. Alberto Omodei, Facility Manager
Customer Challenges and Requirements

The University of Brescia has joined the Canon Managed Print Services (MPS) project to address the problem of a widely diverse printing environment in which each department had its own, independent printing infrastructure. In total the University had 1225 devices. Each office independently supported all management costs associated with its printing infrastructure such as the assistance and purchase of consumables.

Over time this scenario had cultivated a series of problems due to obsolete printing technologies e.g. difficulty in activating the repair process, toner wastage and non-use which has meant users’ satisfaction with the printing processes deteriorated. It was also very difficult to allocate costs to appropriate faculties or guarantee document security.

The Solution

Canon Italia, together with its partner Center C, have implemented the Canon MPS with uniFLOW as its key component. This provides an end-to-end solution for print and document management to meet the specific printing and digitalization needs of the entire University of Brescia.

The printing service is either free of charge or must be paid for, depending on the type of user, and ensures constant monitoring of printing volumes and costs which can be allocated to the University’s various internal cost centers.

The main features of the customized MPS service are:

- Digitization and secure scanning service through the uniFLOW Canon platform
- Management and monitoring of all users and their print flows
- Secure authentication with RFID badge on all Canon imageRUNNER ADVANCE devices for both internal staff and students
- Ad hoc printing service for temporary users and paying users where the Canon service provides a portal for registration, payment and print management on all devices
- Profiling of users and their associated functions
- Allocation of printing expenses to the correct cost centers

Benefits

The objectives of updated technology enabling rationalization of devices and optimizing management of the printing processes have been achieved. The MPS service has reduced the fleet from 1225 to around 300 devices and ensures every user can use the same printing and digitization service throughout the University. This facilitated simplification of print flows and highly improved security and management of information.

The use of a single Canon technology platform consisting of imageRUNNER ADVANCE devices and the uniFLOW output management platform has also brought about an improvement in the user experience for both students and staff.

In addition, the MPS service enabled a significant reduction in printing costs of approximately 30% as well as saving time and resources linked to the management of print flows by the University’s IT department.

The success of the project is also thanks to the collaboration between Canon, the Canon Partner and the University and the flexibility and customization capabilities which Canon’s technologies allow.

- Optimization and rationalization of the print infrastructure
- Cost reduction
- Information security and control of workflows and document printing
- Improved user experience
- Technology aligned with modern digital requirements such as mobile printing and credit recharge via PayPal through a dedicated portal (Internet Gateway)