

IT Report

Workstation:

Student workstations:

These workstations are in the process of being wiped of all accounts except the current user. Atera and Viewfinity are being installed on them during this process.

Faculty/staff workstations:

These workstations will have Viewfinity and Atera installed on them in the coming weeks. Expect to see "Admin," Joey, or my account as the last logged on user for your machine.

Departmental Labs, Classroom Computing, Conference Rooms:

The Curl Lab:

All computers updated, moved to ADS, and have Atera and Viewfinity installed on them. All profiles were wiped from these computers in preparation for the new semester. We are in the process of working with Open Access for the printer system.

IMS:

All computers updated, moved to ADS, and have Atera installed on them.

Room 132, 255, and 266:

These computers have all been moved to ADS and require your NetID to log in. They have been updated and Atera is installed on them. ALEC Faculty and Staff have access to these computers. Students, faculty and staff from other departments need to email me for access.

Room 200 and 129:

These machines belong to the Dean's Office. I have no control over these machines. To log in using the guest account, follow the instructions on the wall. If you cannot locate the instructions, email me and I can help you log in.

Software Updates and User Account Management:

Atera and Viewfinity:

ALEC IT has purchased two new softwares. Atera is used to automate software installation, maintenance, and upgrades. This software is already being deployed, and is on all on-site computers. There are still a few off-site machines that still need it.

Viewfinity has become necessary to comply with TAMU policy that is increasingly restrictive of allowing individual users to have admin access on departmental computers. Viewfinity will allow ALEC IT to provide specific users and groups, for specific tasks, and manage that process remotely. This Allows each user to have administrative

privileges when needed, without actually giving the user admin access. For example, all users will be allowed to update/install programs such as Java, Adobe products, Office, and Windows updates. Viewfinity is installed on about 1/3 of the machines.

This software was purchased jointly by three departments: ALEC, RPTS, and ENTO. The estimated annual cost to ALEC for these two packages going forward will be \$2,688 (\$948 for Atera, \$1,740 for Viewfinity).

Possible Printing Model

Network and in-office printers

There is possibly a new model that could save us some money. We would be charged per page printer rather than buy all the paper and toner. My research into this is still early, so expect more details at the next IT Meeting.