

Michigan's LEADing the Future

GSS SD *Deploy!* dramatically reduces the time spent configuring Palm OS devices so educators can concentrate on learning instead of logistics

OVERVIEW

- Michigan's LEADing the Future program will train over 4000 administrators this year
- The program promotes technology leadership training for school superintendents and principals

BENEFITS SUMMARY

- In the initial pilot of 100 Palms, GSS SD *Deploy!* saved Trimble Consulting about 46 hours
- When configuring 1023 Palms, GSS SD *Deploy!* saved over 8 days and countless pizzas!

Michigan's LEADing the Future program is a collaborative project of the Michigan K-12 education community which promotes technology leadership training for school superintendents and principals. (LEAD stands for Leading Edge Administrators Determining the Future.) This year Michigan's LEADing the Future program will train 4000 administrators and each participant will return to his or her district with a pre-configured Palm.

As a consultant to the LEADing the Future Planning Team, Fred Trimble of Trimble Consulting is responsible for making sure the technical pieces all come together. This includes charging the Palms, distributing the software, and delivering the training. GSS SD *Deploy!* lets him concentrate on learning instead of logistics.

GSS SD *Deploy!* Smooths the Way

"In our original pilot of 100 Palms, it took about 33 minutes per Palm to unpack, charge, distribute software and repack; with GSS SD *Deploy!*, we've got that down to about 5 or 6 minutes per Palm," says Trimble. If you do the math, you see that adding GSS SD *Deploy!* to the equation means the process takes just over 9 hours instead of about 55—a considerable savings. Of course these are 9 person hours, Trimble and several staffers used 12 SD cards to turn a full day's work into a fast-moving afternoon.

After the pilot, Trimble and his staff used GSS SD *Deploy!* to configure 1023 Palms over the course of 2 long days; without GSS SD *Deploy!*, it would have taken the same group of people 10 days and countless pizzas. With GSS SD *Deploy!* and a several sets of hands, charging

the Palms became the most time-consuming part of the process.

GSS SD *Deploy!* Lets Trainers Train

"As they experiment, some participants invariably delete important applications or otherwise muddle up their Palms. Instead of spending time troubleshooting and hard resetting the Palms, we simply insert the SD card to restore their original software and preferences. GSS SD *Deploy!* let us focus on training instead of troubleshooting," noted Trimble. With GSS SD *Deploy!*, the technology was always where it needed to be—no matter what the principals and superintendents were up to.

GSS SD *Deploy!* Can Help You

Whether you've got a roomful of Palms that need quick configuring, or you just want to make sure the ones you've got stay the way you configured them, GSS SD *Deploy!* simplifies the task. Contact Jody Murphy at 866-787-4778 or see www.grantstreetsoftware.com for more information. Focus on using your Palms instead of setting them up.

Michigan's LEADing the Future program is made possible by a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. For more information, see www.LEADmichigan.org.

Fred Trimble and Trimble Consulting serve schools and libraries—offering consultant services based on a broad range of instructional, administrative, and technical skills, as well as knowledge and experience in the field of educational technology. For more information, see www.trimbleconsulting.net