

# Locking Down Devices with Recast RCT Enterprise Lab Manager



## About the Client

The University of Northumbria at Newcastle is a university located in Newcastle upon Tyne in the North East of England.

## Devices

Northumbria's IT department supports 7,000 campus desktops for 35,000 students.

## Industry

Education

## Management Console

SCCM user

## Solution

Recast RCT Enterprise Lab Manager

*"Tool such as the automatic logon and the Profile Scheduler work great – right out of the box. It makes it much easier to lock down and reconfigure devices than it was before."*

-Gary Atkinson

*"The lab manager and the scheduling features makes it much easier to have computers revert back to an un-restricted setting after testing is over. Once testing is over, it transforms computers back into a working lab environment. This prevents us from doing time-consuming manual device configurations."*

-Alan Blakey

## Northumbria's Task

The University of Northumbria IT department was tasked with finding a way to securely lock down computer labs for testing. Specifically, they needed the capability to remotely convert an entire computer lab into a secure testing environment and then back into a fully functioning teaching lab. An additional constraint was they wanted to do all of this within their SCCM console.

## The Lab Manager Solution

Lab Manager, part of the Recast RCT Enterprise toolset, allowed the Northumbria IT department to leverage their existing SCCM architecture and create a locked-down testing environment. With Lab Manager, they were able to remotely transform computer labs and better administer computerized tests.



## How the process works

With Lab Manager, Northumbria's IT team was able to use their preexisting SCCM device collections and securely lock down computers for testing over a 2-day period. Now Micro's technicians helped Northumbria create customized Lab Manager Profiles that could be deployed from within their SCCM console.

Lab Manager's auto-login and shell replacement features allowed Northumbria students to use Lab computers without having to login or launch their testing applications. This enabled students to focus purely on testing alone.

In order to automatically reconfigure lab computers on testing day, Northumbria's IT team used the Lab Manager Scheduling feature. It locked down testing computers before exams started, and transformed lab computers back into their unlocked states after testing was finished.

## Key Benefits to Northumbria

- Lab computers were remotely locked down
- Lock-down periods were scheduled in advance
- Flexible lock-down, settings could be edited on-the-fly
- Lab Manager seamlessly integrated with SCCM
- No longer required to manually lock down devices