

CLIENT

National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD)

OVERVIEW

Apple Macintosh (Mac) desktops were not well supported at the National Institutes of Health/National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIH/NIDCD). NIDCD had no mechanism to enforce the common security parameters that are required for all systems running on Federal government networks. NIDCD did not have the ability to install and update standard applications efficiently, nor was there any centralized patch management. Windows servers were incapable of supporting all platforms. In most cases, Mac users did not use networked drives for storing their data. No desktop-level backups were implemented or integrated into centralized backup administration. In short, Macs were totally unsupported, even though they represented 33% of systems on the network and were responsible for 85% of the data generated.

CHALLENGE

Provide and support an effective and secure heterogeneous network environment where Mac-dominant research labs and Windows-intensive grant program offices access the network, share data, and store and backup information.

SOLUTION

LCG Systems' solution is based upon a *Golden Triangle* integration which provides:

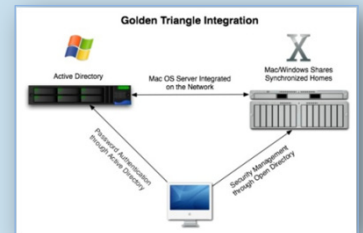
- Ease of access for Mac users through Active Directory integration, enabling security compliance via Active Directory network login.
- Enforcement of group and computer policies via Apple Open Directory and centralized management of user and computer accounts via Workgroup Manager and Managed Client Exchange (MCX) records.
- Synchronization of Mac desktops to servers, and backup of local data through automated data "mirroring" to an Active Directory-integrated Mac OS X file server providing centralized network access

RESULT

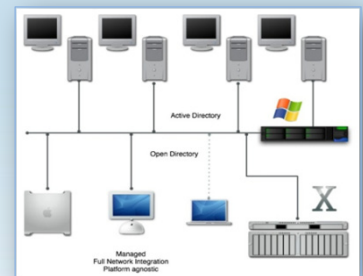
A total solution for the heterogeneous, complex network environment at NIDCD. Full network integration and management of Mac and Windows desktops, multi-platform asset and patch management, as well as a backup system that respects the complex requirements of such networks. LCG combined the ease-of-use for Mac users with the power of complete Active Directory/Open Directory integration, support for a robust asset and patch management tool, and a centralized and efficient enterprise-level backup system. LCG's *Golden Triangle* solution creates a world-class environment that fully supports both Macs and PCs from an enterprise perspective without diminishing any capabilities of the individual client desktops.

BUSINESS VALUE

LCG's *Golden Triangle* solution provides full network integration and support of Macs and PCs.



■ Golden Triangle Integration



■ LCG Solution Schematic