



CASE STUDY: FORT THOMAS INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

Products Used:

- DEVOS Media Server
- DVME Spirit Desktop Encoders
- DV Multi-Channel HD Encoders

Background

Fort Thomas Independent Schools chose Discover Video to provide a cost-effective, easy-to-use digital video distribution system for their entire school district. Located in northern Kentucky, Fort Thomas has one high school, one middle school, and three elementary schools, all connected through a high-speed fiber-based network.

Challenges

- Fort Thomas Independent Schools was looking to provide education and news in the classroom, including:
- **Morning Announcements:** Fort Thomas Schools wanted to be able to stream daily video announcements and weekly programs to classrooms.
- **TV Distribution:** With a failing coax system, Fort Thomas Schools needed a district-wide solution for delivering 22 live TV channels to classrooms for news and education.
- **Video on Demand/Media Retrieval:** Fort Thomas Schools required a solution to manage and deliver educational videos to classrooms on demand.
- **Streaming Public Events:** The schools wanted to share graduations, school concerts, speakers, sports, and other key events live on the Internet.
- **Blended Learning:** Having provided secondary-level students with MacBook Airs as a step toward a digital-based education, Fort Thomas needed a system that would allow teachers to create and deliver multimedia lessons.

Solution

Fort Thomas Independent Schools implemented the Discover Video DEVOS media server along with the Discover Video multi-channel encoders (MCE) and Spirit multimedia encoders.

The DEVOS media server accepts live streams from the MCE and Spirit encoders and delivers them to classroom PCs, Macs, and mobile devices. It also holds all of the schools' educational videos.

Teachers can access any video on a PC or Mac by opening their browser, searching, and selecting it on the DEVOS menu. With permission, students can also play specific video titles on their devices.

MCE encoders:

- Deliver 22 channels of cable TV to classrooms for viewing on projector screens or TVs
- Spirit encoders:
 - Stream and record video and audio from cameras and microphones for school video news program distribution
 - Stream major school events live to classrooms and on the Internet
 - Create digital multimedia lessons that can be watched by students

DEVOS system:

- Delivers live streams from the encoders both internally and on the Internet
- Manages and distributes any recorded video internally and externally
- Provides channel selection guide for the TV channels

Benefits

- Live news and educational programs are delivered directly to the classroom; parents can watch them at home on any viewing device.
- Video is used more widely in the school to enhance the learning process. Teachers can use local education content or pull videos from YouTube and iTunes through the DEVOS system.
- Students get experience creating a video news program.
- Parents and relatives can watch school graduations, concerts, sports, open houses, and other events live on the Internet.