



Inclusivity Through Technology: The Lexmark Enhanced Accessibility Printer (LEAP)



The Dublin and Dún Laoghaire Education & Training Board (DDLETB) provides a comprehensive range of education and training services throughout Dublin. DDLETB's educational and training provision includes second-level schools, further education colleges and a range of adult and further education centres delivering education and training programmes, Post Leaving Certificate Courses (PLCs), Youthreach centres, outdoor education and youth services.

Challenges

DDLETB supports learners from diverse backgrounds, which extends to their Special Education Needs Department (SEN), where they support a broad spectrum of students with various disabilities. A significant challenge for these learners is the use of the printer, an essential educational and workplace tool that some cannot operate independently. To encourage inclusion, DDLETB wanted to design a solution to be as seamless as possible that would provide independence for these students.

Solution

IPS worked strategically with DDLETB, alongside Lexmark to collaboratively design, develop, and produce a fully accessible printer which adheres to the European Standards, complete with additional accessories.

These innovations are specifically aimed at fostering independence among users facing challenges in vision, hearing, vocal capacity, cognition, physical strength and perception of colour. This collaborative effort underscores a shared commitment to inclusivity and empowerment, ensuring that individuals with these specific challenges can fully engage with and benefit from the LEAP's capabilities

The Organisation

DDLETB are dedicated to ensuring students learning experience is enjoyable and successful. At their purpose-built facilities they offer a variety of courses that are suitable for many different learners - jobseekers, people entering the workforce for the first time, early school leavers, people with disabilities, those wishing to change careers and people looking to refresh their knowledge or gain new skills.

Lexmark Enhanced Accessibility Printer Benefits Users With Challenges in:

- ✓ Vision
- ✓ Hearing
- ✓ Vocal Capacity
- ✓ Cognition
- ✓ Physical Strength
- ✓ Perception of Colour

Lexmark Enhanced Accessibility Printer (LEAP)

Implementation

Implementing the Lexmark Enhanced Accessibility Printer across various sites was streamlined and efficient, thanks to DDLETB's collaboration with IPS. This partnership has led to the installation of the LEAP in over 15 locations, not only within DDLETB but also across other educational centers and workplaces. This wide-reaching deployment has been pivotal in promoting independence among users, regardless of their position in the educational or professional journey. The success of this initiative highlights the adaptability and effectiveness of the LEAP in supporting individuals with specific needs, ensuring they can thrive in diverse settings.

Results

We take immense pride in positioning ourselves as pioneers in the domain of accessibility and inclusion within managed print services. The LEAP device not only aligns with European standards but also strives to accommodate and empower individuals with a diverse spectrum of disabilities, ensuring their independence and inclusion.

With 1000+ users utilising the Lexmark Enhanced Accessibility Printer across over 15+ organisations throughout Ireland and over 2 million impressions on the devices.

Our project is a story of breaking down barriers and building smarter, more inclusive systems. Our commitment to meeting the business requirements of DDLETB extended beyond the mere provision of Managed Print Services.

It embodied a comprehensive effort to ensure that technology serves as a tool for inclusion, enabling users with disabilities to engage fully and independently in their educational pursuits. Through innovation, collaboration, and a deep commitment to accessibility, we delivered a solution that not only met but exceeded the expectations of our client while setting a new standard for inclusivity in our industry.

"Working with the DDLETB ICT Team, Corporate Services, SEN Department, Teachers and Students has been an entirely positive experience. The forward-thinking approach of DDLETB has ensured that the LEAP could be utilised to its full potential. Plus, seeing the results of how beneficial the LEAP is for students has made the project an amazing opportunity to be part of."

Paul Farrell

Professional Services Manager
IPS

"Working with IPS has been a pleasure from the start, LEAP gives students 100% independence in their work. The project was really important because we need to consider students when they leave post-primary or Third Level Education and enter the workplace, We want to give everyone the opportunity to reach their potential "

Frances Gibson

Development Officer for SEN / DEIS
DDLETB

"The LEAP has proven to be a remarkable tool for fostering inclusion, independence, and opening up opportunities for students. It stands as a testament to how technology can be harnessed to create more inclusive and opportunity-rich environments for everyone"

Rob O'Donnell

Customer Engagement Manager
IPS



Lexmark Enhanced Accessibility Printer

Lexmark XC4000 Series MFP

- Lexmark Adjustable Printer Stand
- Lexmark Voice Guidance Kit
- Lexmark Braille Keyboard
- Fixed Headset
- Rotatable Display with Tactile Numpad