



"The big thing that stands out with Casper is its flexibility. It's extremely easy for me to administer a large number of machines and make changes on large groups of computers or a single machine quickly. It minimizes the amount of time we spend on administration."

-Joshua Kaiser

Cabela's

Sidney, NE

Casper Suite Case Study: September 2006

By their boot straps

From its start at Dick and Mary Cabela's kitchen table in 1961, through its 2004 debut on the New York Stock Exchange, and continuing today, Cabela's is the world's foremost outfitter of fishing, hunting, and outdoor gear. They have also always been a forward thinking "up by your boot straps" kind of company. This is also true of their IT department.

Joshua Kaiser, a Senior Graphic Systems Administrator at the Cabela's headquarters in Sidney, Nebraska, says, "We like to do some things ourselves. If there's something our IT department can do on their own, or be trained to do, it's really beneficial for us."

Before deploying Casper, Cabela's used a popular remote desktop solution combined with an open source tool. Even when used together they were limited and unreliable. Cabela's decided to use the Casper Suite because it was a complete desktop management tool and its flexibility fit their work style.

Handling internal policies and regulations

"In our environment, we like to write custom scripts for client workstations. Some run on a regular basis and some are user activated. What really impresses me about Casper is its Policies functionality. My scripts are centralized now. We can automatically have Macs check in with the JSS to run whatever scripts are needed. I can also associate policies with scripts and do virtually anything from the Mac OS X command line. It's really flexible."

Situation

Needs:

- A complete product to help deploy new workstations
- Ability to do custom configurations within a uniform environment
- Inventory for compliance and asset management

Environment:

- 175+ Macs at headquarters and retail locations
- Task specific workstations and departments

JAMF
software 

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Responding to external compliance requests

When a compliance audit occurs, it's advantageous to respond quickly and accurately. When a software vendor contacted Cabela's, they relied on the Casper Suite to make this audit process as painless as possible. As Joshua explains, "In the past, we never had an efficient way to do inventory. When we received a compliance request from our vendor, we were relieved to have Casper's Recon application. The vendor asked us to provide reports showing where all of their products were installed. Using our old approach, at best we would have had single reports from individual machines and we would have experienced periodic failures trying to get them. Using Recon, we reduced what would have been 2 weeks worth of work to 2 days and it was largely automated. We responded to the vendor with confidence—it was a huge success."

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