

MasterTrade Ltd.

Challenge:

When MasterTrade Ltd. replaced their OS/2 environment with UNIX at their 48 branches throughout New Zealand, they thought they would have to give up their multi-tasking functionality. That was, until they tried FacetTerm!

Each site has its own SCO Open Server 5 UNIX server with an average of sixteen Windows PC clients. The SCO servers run a point-of-sale application and are linked to an IBM AS/400 at its head office in Christchurch, New Zealand.

"We required a UNIX based multi-window capability at each of our workstations. This was to replace the multi-tasking equivalent feature which we had previously realized using OS/2," says Neil Helson, DP Manager at MasterTrade Ltd.



Solution:

MasterTrade Ltd. installed a 16-user FacetTerm license in each of their 48 branches for a total of 768 users.

Helson evaluated other multi-session solutions before choosing FacetTerm. He was impressed with FacetTerm's performance. "We tested FacetTerm's main competitor and found it to be very sluggish compared to FacetTerm" explained Helson. "FacetTerm has contributed to increasing our productivity by providing a faster method of switching between our point-of-sale applications. The overhead of FacetTerm appears to be less than what we experienced with OS/2," he continued.

SUMMARY

Corporate Profile:

MasterTrade Ltd. is a distributor of electrical and plumbing products and provider of facilities management services. They have 48 branches throughout New Zealand and are headquartered in Christchurch, New Zealand.

Dilemma:

MasterTrade Ltd. needed a multi-tasking tool that would allow them to switch between sessions of their UNIX Point-of-Sale applications.

Resolution:

MasterTrade Ltd. implemented a 16-user license of FacetTerm on the SCO Open Server 5 UNIX server at each of their branches. FacetTerm was found to be stable, efficient and easy to use... while helping to increase their productivity.

"FacetTerm is stable, efficient and easy to use!"

-Neil Helson, DP Manager
MasterTrade Ltd.

System Snapshot:

UNIX Server: SCO
Desktop: PCs with emulation
FacetTerm User Count: 768