Case study
Allegiant Battle for Veterans

The customer
Managers at any growing organization will say the same thing about paper files: Digitizing them as fast as possible is important for greater efficiency—and faster growth. That’s especially true at organizations like Allegiant Battle for Veterans. The Roseville, California-based non-profit helps military veterans adjust to civilian life, with initiatives that include career-oriented mentorships and donations of equipment for disabled veterans. The organization relies heavily on volunteers and corporate sponsors, so it has minimal resources to manage volumes of paper such as business cards, reports, marketing materials, and valuable personal documents and photos from veterans.

The challenge
Chief Financial Officer Michael Mathews says it became clear in the past year or two that the group’s growth would depend in part on how successfully it could manage the documents used for essential activities, such as fundraising events.

"Event management is an important part of what we do,” says Mathews. “For example, in 2012 Allegiant Battle for Veterans held events in both Northern California and Southern California, including a fundraising Battle of the Forces Golf Tournament, an Evening of Honor, and the School Honor Tour.”

“As we grow and the activities across the state increase, the volume of paper that we’re generating and that we receive from outside sources has been piling up from these and other activities. It was becoming very labor intensive and all the paper files were becoming difficult to manage with our small volunteer staff.”

The solution
Allegiant Battle for Veterans found assistance from Fujitsu’s ScanSnap family of products. The speed of the iX500 allows staff to work faster, and the contact-less SV600 digitizes delicate and oversized documents and manuals. The organization also benefits from remote access to files through ScanSnap’s partnership with popular cloud services. Now, they can focus on the organization’s true and honorable mission: serving veterans.

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Michael Mathews, Chief Financial Officer, Allegiant Battle for Veterans
The benefit

Scanners are helping organizations expand with small staff.

- Digital documents are easily accessed using mobile devices and Evernote.
- Scanning helps organize and store essential financial and legal documents required for audits.
- Practical daily uses include scanning manuals, photos, and odd-sized materials.

The solution

Allegiant Battle for Veterans found the right combination for its needs with scanners from Fujitsu. These include the Fujitsu ScanSnap iX500, a compact sheet-feed scanner capable of processing up to 25 color pages a minute, and the new Fujitsu SV600 contactless scanner. The SV600 uses overhead-scanning technology for scanning materials such as newspapers, books, or magazines.

Both scanners deliver fast scans resulting in searchable Adobe PDF as well as JPEG image files. The scanners are used heavily, with the iX500 digitizing a broad range of documents received at events and in the mail. The SV600, meanwhile, serves an important role in scanning materials that will not fit through a standard sheet-feed device.

Additionally, both devices integrate with popular productivity and file-storage services, including Evernote, SugarSync, Google Docs, and Salesforce.com. After storing files on local hard drives, Battle for Veterans uses Evernote to make files easily accessible to organization officials and volunteers from their mobile devices when they are at events or meetings outside of the Roseville headquarters.

The benefit

The Fujitsu scanners are helping every aspect of the organization, from routine daily management tasks to fundraising and helping veterans.

“The past, we were collecting endless pages, binding them, and traveling around with boxes of spiral-bound documents. It was incredibly time consuming,” Mathews says. “Now, with the Fujitsu scanners, we’ve become much more efficient. We have nine directors on our board, and they can spend a lot more time on valuable outreach activities instead of dealing with paper files.”

Digitizing files is also helping the organization with legal and financial matters. “As CFO, part of my job is to ensure that we have very good record keeping and are ready for audits,” Mathews says. “The Fujitsu scanners are an enormous help in storing and organizing important documentation so we have quick, easy access during reports and auditing periods. They are invaluable for the organization.”