

# Case study

## Michio Kobayashi

### Kanagawa University High School

»This made me realize that I could manage my documents and get rid of unwanted material by using ScanSnap, which is great for converting to electronic formats easily.«

Michio Kobayashi, Teacher, Kanagawa University High School



#### The customer

Michio Kobayashi, a teacher at Kanagawa University High School, has been in charge of IT education at the school since 1989. He is enthusiastic about the practice of IT education, and has served as a teacher on educational television and also co-authored publications and ministry-approved textbooks on the subject.

#### Attraction of being able to make scans whenever needed

In anticipation of the development of information society, Kanagawa University High School first started running classes in information and IT as a course option back in 1989 when PCs were still a rarity. Nowadays, the aim is to enhance “21st century skills” through IT education that focuses on building things, with a key feature being student-led group work that involves such tasks as setting up websites and building robots so that they can learn how to use PCs as a means of expression. Meanwhile, Mr. Kobayashi, who is responsible for the practice of IT education at the school, first started using ScanSnap about five years ago.

“In those days, scanning at most schools was typically done using a large multi-function printer/copier in the teachers' room. In practice, though, this was cumbersome as you need to go back and forth to the teachers' room every time you wanted to use the machine. As a result, many teachers, myself included, recognized the convenience of being able to convert paper documents to PDF files with scanners at our own desks whenever we wanted”

#### Used to manage the influx of paper documents

Mr. Kobayashi's main use for the device has been to manage the daily influx of new paper documents associated with his administrative school duties.

“Although schools have made progress on adopting ICT, the culture of using paper for things like routine memos or teaching material for handing out to students is still widespread. I get rid of these materials, that do not have to be in paper form, by using ScanSnap.”

One unexpected application was when Mr. Kobayashi wanted to return material handed in by students quickly. “In the past when students handed in a questionnaire, for example, I would copy these as a backup, knowing it would take some time to enter the results. By scanning with ScanSnap, I was able to eliminate this work and the unnecessary cost of copying.”

#### The customer

Customer: Michio Kobayashi, Kanagawa University High School  
Country: Japan  
Industry: Education

#### The challenge

Michio Kobayashi, a teacher at Kanagawa University High School, uses ScanSnap to manage the memos and other paper documents he uses in his routine administrative school duties. Before ScanSnap, he used a multi-function printer/copier in the teachers' room, but needing to go back and forth each time he used it was inconvenient. He was also conscious of the wasteful cost associated with his practice of making copies whenever he wanted to quickly return work handed in by students.

#### The solution

He now uses the iX500 when he needs to scan in bulk and the SV600 to scan sections of magazines, newspaper articles, or solid objects. He can also use the Scan to Office function to convert scanned data to Word or PowerPoint format. This is useful when collating material for lessons.

### The benefits

- Can be installed even on cramped desks and used to manage the daily influx of new paper documents
- Reduces cost and workload associated with copying
- Makes it easier to use PDF files on electronic blackboards, student devices, and such

It is also ideal for the new practice of producing “digital portfolios” in which students' school results are recorded in digital form. On a personal level, Mr. Kobayashi is frequently asked to submit manuscripts with regard to his work on ICT education, and he uses ScanSnap during the proofreading of these. He reports that being able to mark corrections on a proof with red pen and then send it back by e-mail as a PDF file has smoothed the process of checking manuscripts.

### Extensive new functions improve ease of use

When asked for his impressions of the iX500 flagship model, Mr. Kobayashi commented that “Being able to connect directly to a PC or tablet via Wi-Fi will expand the potential uses for the device.” With the prospect of the school adopting a one-device-per-student policy in the near future using tablets, it also has potential uses as a collaborative learning tool as well as for administrative school duties.

Mr. Kobayashi also made the point that, “Personally, I am also very encouraged by the improvements in basic performance, which include things like a faster scan speed and functions for preventing paper jams while scanning.”

In this respect, referring to the “Quick Menu,” which provides users with simple on-screen instructions, he also commented that “Having an icon for saving to iPhoto is a real boon for me because I am used to using a Mac. I think it's great the way operations can be performed in just a few steps by having icons like this for commonly used applications.”

“Likewise, because scanned data can be converted to Word or PowerPoint® format, another convenient feature is being able to copy just the text from a document that also contains graphics. This makes lesson preparation more productive because it is much easier than making a copy and pasting on paper.”

Noting that scanned image data can also be saved via PC to a cloud service such as Dropbox, a grinning Mr. Kobayashi added that “Ease of use has received a major boost thanks to the fact that it is now possible to access data wherever you are, as long as you have an internet connection. This is also a welcome advance for heavy users, who can now make scan after scan without worrying about the quantity of data.”

### Products and services

- ScanSnap iX500
- ScanSnap SV600

### Value of SV600 evident at first use

What brought the great ease of use to Mr. Kobayashi's attention was the SV600. Being a contactless scanner, a feature of the SV600 is that page after page of newspapers, magazines, and other material up to A3 size can be scanned quickly and easily.

“It was only once I had tried it for myself that I could appreciate how good it was. You simply place it on the desk and push a single button when you are ready to scan. Also, as I only need to make space for a document when I want to scan it, the SV600 doesn't get in the way.”

A feature he finds especially valuable is being able to convert quickly to PDF files when he wants to show his class a newspaper article or other such topical subject matter.

“Whatever the subject, the teacher always wants to motivate his students when introducing a lesson,” explained Mr. Kobayashi.

“The benefit comes from being able to put up on screen the latest information, which will act as an impetus for this. This is because simply lecturing to students or pulling out old textbooks only serves to turn them off.”

He also added that the information is very easy to use, with the use of PDF format meaning it can be displayed on the electronic blackboard in a large enough size for the entire class to view, or sent to the students' tablets.

Mr. Kobayashi is also quietly amused by being able to scan solid objects up to a certain size. For assembling an optical sensor kit in a robotics lesson, for example, he was able to produce a manual by laying out the parts for each step and scanning them. He expressed the benefits by saying, “Because I could distribute the manual in electronic form, students were able to learn the right way to assemble the sensor without being told each time.”

In this way, the ScanSnap Series has undergone further enhancements that have made it even easier to use. It adds value in ways that include cost savings and shorter lesson preparation time by using scanners to replace all the material that, in the past, had to be copied.

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