Yachiyoshoin Gakuen

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Answer sheets graded digitally within a short period of time!
High speed scanner and digital marking system reduces the workload for teachers.

Takahiro Into, Chief of Information subject, Yachiyoshoin Gakuen

The customer

Country: Japan
Industry: Education
Founded: 1978
Students: 2,636 (as of FY20)
Website: https://www.yachiyoshoin.ac.jp/

八千代松陰学園
Yachiyoshoin Gakuen

The challenge

With the big volumes of paperwork weighing on the shoulders of the teachers (marking, scoring papers for examinations, surveys, etc.) it is imminent to search for more efficient ways to lighten this load on teachers.

The solution

The fi-6670 (1 unit) and ScanSnap iX500 (1 unit) were deployed, collaborating with third-party software for examinations.

The customer

Yachiyoshoin Gakuen is a private school in Japan, that combines both high school and junior high school. Famous for its proactive use of ICT in helping teachers, the school has required students to purchase laptops for classroom-use since 2017.

The challenge

"Our school is considered quite large in Japan with 17 classes from each grade. Any time we have lesson evaluations or entrance exams to score and process, we just have an unrealistic number of documents to process manually."

For more than 30 years, entrance examinations have used mark sheets made by Optical Mark Recognition (OMR) scanners, but these have been expensive and require dedicated sheets to be custom printed. "The cost performance is low because they are used once a year," explains Inoue. "There was an imminent need for a cost-effective solution."

The solution

Yachiyoshoin Gakuen first selected PFU ScanSnap iX500, where the teachers utilized for lesson preparation and to collect questionnaire.

The fi-6670, was deployed after, together with a third-party examination software, to meet the demands to scan large volumes of answer sheets within a short period of time.
The fi-6670 is a scanner for business use and is capable of scanning 90 ppm/180 ipm. Coupled with third-party software, it enables Yachiyoshoin Gakuen to easily use for mock center examinations and competency tests other than the entrance examinations.
In addition to being able to grade multiple choice answer sheets, the fi-6670 supports software for written format answers too. It extracts and arranges answers to same questions on screen, visible, for simultaneous grading, and further elevates efficiency and accuracy in grading. On top of that, teachers are able to freely create answer boxes on plain paper, and answers choices are also automatically graded.

The benefit

- Capable of heavy-duty scanning, promoting efficiency in operation
- Relieves the burden on teachers' workload with papers, to concentrate on primary mission of education
- Cost effectiveness
- Focus on improvements on accuracy

◼ The benefit

Deployment of the scanner with third-party software dramatically reduced the time teachers spent on scoring examinations.

In the past, teachers spent over 2 days to grade periodic examinations throughout the year. "Manually scored 300 exams while fulfilling the daily duties and responsibilities of being a teacher," says Into.

Digitization and combined use of the scanners with the third-party software have changed the grading experience and reduced the time teachers spend on grading to less than an hour.

"On the day of the examination, the test ends at 11:40, and the answers are immediately scanned by the fi Series Scanner, and then run through the software to finish by 12:30," says Into. "Rapid grading gives us plenty of time to coordinate documents for our evaluation meeting that we conduct the day of."

Two faculty members are enough to complete the entire process. Also, the fi Series Scanner can scan a large amount of paper at high speed, so the scanning process itself takes very little time. "Paper jams have never posed a problem for us either," says Into.

In manual grading, human error and accuracy with fatigue build-up are a common issue. By using the scanner, teachers can extract and list answers for a specific question, automating a big portion of the scoring work and alleviating the workload.

Products and services

- fi-6670
- ScanSnap iX500
- third-party software for examinations

◼ Conclusion

The main challenge for Yachioshioin Gakuen was Paper and Time. Implementing the fi-6670, coupled with third-party software, has made scorings for examinations a breeze.

ScanSnap iX500, on the other hand, assists teachers in smooth administration of class evaluation sheets and preparation for classes.

Yachiyoshoin Gakuen, by introducing digitalization, has not only improved the daily activities for teachers, but also set a positive impact on the students.

◼ About Ricoh

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