

South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Controls Goes Google

Daston's Cloud-First professional services team has helped many state and local governments move away from on-premise solutions to enjoy the productivity and cost-savings provided by Google Apps.



New Tools to Enable Mission Success

The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Controls (SCDHEC) is the public health agency and the environmental protection agency for the state. With a mission to promote and protect the health of the public and the environment, the department employs approximately 4,800 people and carries out its duties pursuant to numerous state and federal public health and environmental protection requirements.

Switching to Google Apps

With this mission in mind, SCDHEC needed a robust email system to handle sensitive and confidential communications. The agency recently evaluated a number of cloud solutions via an open RFP process, and decided to switch from Novell GroupWise to Google Apps for Government.

SCDHEC picked Google Apps for Government for numerous reasons including its:

- Broad collaboration capabilities, enabling employees to access files from any web browser
- Ease of deployment
- Additional calendaring and global directory functionalities
- [Security certification](#) from the federal government
- Cost-effectiveness

Fast Migration, Immediate Benefits

Working with a Google Premier Enterprise Partner, Daston Corporation, SCDHEC was able to migrate its 4,800 users to the Google Apps environment in just 45 days.

The benefits were immediate, even while employees were still learning about Google Apps' full capabilities.

"Our employees were ready for the next application to be turned on before we were ready for them to start using it."

Gene Crocker, IT Director

People working from different locations are now able to collaborate easily on the same document or spreadsheet online. Since the applications now live in the cloud and are delivered over the Internet and accessed in a web browser, there is much less worry about file size limitations, server downtime, technology upgrades, or maintenance issues.

Before the migration, SCDHEC's network administrators were spending considerable amounts of time on maintaining email servers and clients. That time has been reduced tremendously, allowing IT to focus on more meaningful initiatives and re-allocate resources.