



The University of Utah Simplifies Its Distance Learning System With Wowza®

Overview

Located in Salt Lake City in the foothills of the Wasatch Mountains, The University of Utah is the flagship institution of higher learning in Utah. It serves more than 31,000 students attending face-to-face, hybrid and fully-online courses. Instructors regularly capture live lectures — complete with integrated media “props” such as video clips — for on-demand review and distance learning.

The burgeoning technologies of the past two decades bolstered the University’s initiative to expand online learning while simplifying the entire process. The challenge was to create an easy, user-friendly lecture-streaming process for instructors while ensuring a given piece of media would work for students regardless of the platform, software or player. In order to accomplish this, the University needed streaming media server software that would simplify the process while being efficient and cost-effective. Wowza Media Server software did just that.

Wowza Media Server ensures instructors have simple workflows for creating and publishing their content, and student viewers get reliable playback regardless of platform, player connection.

With Wowza Media Server software, the University of Utah could partly eliminate the requirements of time and proximity for all students. And the software’s all-encompassing capabilities and out-of-the box functionality have resulted in fewer calls to the University’s support center.

“ I would encourage any institution that wants an in-house streaming media infrastructure to check out Wowza Media Server. It is the most flexible and innovative product on the market, and has proven to be a solid solution for us. Wowza is always one step ahead of the competition. ”

Dave Adams, Associate Director, Teaching and Learning Technology Department, University of Utah

Challenges

- Creating an easy, user-friendly lecture-streaming process for instructors.
- Making sure a given piece of media works for the students regardless of the platform, software or player.
- Finding and implementing a streaming media server software that simplifies the process, is efficient *and* cost-effective.

Wowza Solutions

- Ensures instructors have simple workflows for creating and publishing their content.
- Student viewers get reliable playback regardless of platform, player or connection.
- Built to be flexible, capable of a wide-array of functionalities and is an inexpensive solution.

Benefits of Wowza Media Server

- Reduces the requirements of time and proximity for all students. Students are no longer required to be at a certain place at a certain time making learning possible in situations that would otherwise be impossible.
- AddOns offer significant out-of-the-box functionality for common everyday uses, yet is easy to develop additional functionality when required.
- Out-of-the box functionality ensure a reduction in the number of calls to a support center.

