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Pegasus Announces More Efficient
Student Loan System

San Ramon, CA -- San Ramon-based Pegasus Disk Technologies, a developer of storage management software for optical storage devices and Santa Barbara based IMAGE-X, team up to give The University of Texas the ability to secure more student loans and grants in less time.

With the cost of education continuing to spiral upward, universities are looking for cost-efficient ways to streamline their flow of information. To successfully survive and grow, universities need meaningful, information that can be accessed efficiently throughout the university. The following case study is just one example of how information management technology is meeting the demanding needs of financial aid departments.

The University Of Texas, San Antonio (UTSA) was established in 1969. It is the second largest university in the University of Texas system. UTSA research expenditures place it in the top 25 nationally. To help students pay for tuition, the university takes an extremely active role in securing federally backed loans and grants. Due to its size, UTSA took an unusually long period of time to process the financial aid applications submitted by students. UTSA realized that it needed to find a more efficient method of processing the thousands of forms it receives from students each semester.

IMAGE-X proposed an integrated document management system for scanning, routing, retrieval and archiving of the scanned student financial aid applications. The system is integrated with the existing DTS financial aid management application which is running on an IBM mainframe and provides comprehensive student financial information.

The student delivers the completed application to the financial aid office. The forms are scanned in batches and indexed using records in the existing DTS application with a single keystroke. Each evening the DTS application sends pertinent information from the students financial aid application to the Department of Education's mainframe system in Iowa which checks the loan history of each student and evaluates the application for completeness.

The mainframe returns a status code based on its findings to UTSA. The results of the batch processing triggers the IMAGE-X workflow software and each financial aid application is automatically advanced to the appropriate financial aid counselor based on the status code.

Documents no longer need to be hand carried from one desk to another, no applications are lost or missing, bottlenecks are eliminated and documents can be displayed with a single keystroke. IMAGE-X chose Pegasus Disk Technologies as the archival software to control the optical library. IMAGE-X, using the Pegasus API was able to plug optical archival support directly and seamlessly into the IMAGE-X document management application. This allows for files to be passed off from on-line storage devices to near-line storage and back again. UTSA's application required that data be stored for a very long time and thus Pegasus' InveStore™ was chosen as the archival solution allowing IMAGE-X to keep the costs of long-term storage down.

IMAGE-X Document Imaging and Workflow system gave UTSA the ability to award financial aid to eligible students sooner than before. This enabled students to take more classes in a particular semester, generating more revenue for UTSA each fiscal year. Adding workflow and document imaging to the existing application also reduced the overall cost of processing a financial aid application. Converting paper documents into electronic documents allowed clerical staff and counselors to be more productive.

About IMAGE-X

IMAGE-X was founded in 1989 with the express purpose of bringing innovative solutions to the then emerging field of document imaging. IMAGE-X products are XML based process-centric document management suites that include workflow, imaging, COLD, archival technologies and E business solutions. They can be integrated with any database application running on any kind of hardware platform without modification. IMAGE-X is located at 30 South La Patera Lane, Suite 8 Santa Barbara, CA. 93117. For more information on IMAGE-X contact George Jacob at 805-964-3535 or on the World Wide Web at http://www.imagexx.com.

About Pegasus Disk Technologies

Pegasus Disk Technologies, Inc., headquartered in San Ramon, CA develops archive management software for optical, CD-ROM and DVD devices from leading manufacturers. Founded in 1988, Pegasus has developed long-term strategic partnerships with leading developer ISVs and OEMs that use its products to manage storage devices within their applications. Pegasus is located at 18 Crow Canyon Court, San Ramon, California, 94583 and can be reached by phone at (925) 314-1800, by fax at (925) 314-1801 or on the World Wide Web at http://www.pegasus-afs.com.

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