

davenport group

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# Virtual Desktop Infrastructure Built for the Future

Davenport Group helps Rhodes College design and implement a VDI environment for their growing needs.

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### Looking Ahead

Rhodes College knew the time had come for an upgrade to their virtual environment. Their current virtualization solution and network were running fine, but Rhodes College was looking ahead to a future with more students and more staff relying on computers every day.

Rhodes College contacted Davenport Group about replacing server hosts for their VMware VDI environment. Through collaboration and discussion, Rhodes College and Davenport Group took a step back together to evaluate all technologies available on the market today. Instead of purchasing a quick solution for their present needs, Davenport Group helped Rhodes College find the perfect solution for their future demands.

A growing private college needed new servers to support their virtual desktop infrastructure. Davenport Group helped Rhodes College find the best technology for their needs now and into the future.

#### **About Rhodes College**

Rhodes is a national, four-year, private, coeducational, residential college committed to the liberal arts and sciences. Our highest priorities are intellectual engagement, service to others, and honor among ourselves. We enjoy one of the country's most beautiful campuses in the heart of Memphis, an economic, political and cultural center, making Rhodes one of a handful of prominent liberal arts colleges located in a major metropolitan area.

The Rhodes experience combines the best of the classroom and the real world through internships, service, research and other opportunities in Memphis and far beyond. Students learn, play and serve others with a determination to grow personally and to improve the quality of life within their communities.

Rhodes is profiled in The Princeton Review's recently released The Best 381 Colleges for 2017, and ranks No. 1 on its Most Beautiful Campus list and No. 2 for Most Engaged in Community Service. For the second year in a row, Rhodes was also included in The Princeton Review's lists of "Colleges That Create Futures" and "Colleges That Pay You Back." For two years in a row, Rhodes was named America's #1 Service-Oriented College by Newsweek magazine. In addition, Rhodes regularly garners accolades from U.S. News and World Report, Forbes and Fiske's Guide to Colleges. Rhodes is also profiled in the prestigious book Colleges That Change Lives.

Source: www.rhodes.edu/content/about-rhodes



## The Challenge

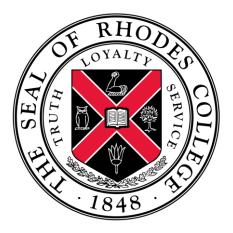
Rhodes College had a VDI environment in place, and was looking to upgrade their servers. Davenport Group worked with their teams as well as teams at VMware to do a complete, in-depth analysis of the college's current environment.

Davenport Group used this detailed analysis, Rhodes College's budget, and their plans for future growth to design an individualized plan. The result is a fully software defined storage solution in place with VSAN, Horizon View, and NVIDIA GRID licensing. Rhodes College now has a future full of easy and flexible growth with unparalleled performance.

## The Future

Rhodes College students and staff now enjoy a fast and reliable virtual desktop infrastructure. Their administration has the flexibility to deploy new desktops or computer labs quickly. This means they can meet the needs of a growing student body with ease.

With the speed and power provided by vSAN and the Nvidia GPUs, their virtual desktops have never worked so well or been able to do so many different things for them. Rhodes College is now fully prepared for the future of education.



*"Davenport* Group simplifies multi-faceted projects by bringing together the hardware, software, licensing, and consulting pieces, allowing our team to focus on the success of the solution rather than the nuances and peculiarities of different vendors." – Rhodes College Staff

