



Intuitive and secure computing for business

Lafarge tests highlight the potential for touch-enabled Ultrabook™ devices to deliver trusted, efficient access to information within the enterprise



bringing materials to *life*™

“Our aim is to oversee a technology strategy that works for both individual employees and the organization as a whole. By offering a high-performance, flexible and trusted platform, touch-enabled Ultrabooks running Windows 8 can open up new opportunities for collaboration and innovation, while enabling the business to maintain control over its IT resources.”

Michel Juvin,
Chief Information Security Officer, Lafarge



Company

Lafarge is a global leader in the design and production of building materials for sustainable construction, housing, transport and infrastructure. With a presence in 64 countries, Lafarge is driven by the needs of its customers. As a complex, dynamic organization, Lafarge and its staff depend on the company’s IT resources for ready access to the information they need to do business, both in and outside the office.

Challenge

Lafarge’s IT management team is responsible for ensuring the company’s IT resources perform effectively, efficiently and securely for employees. Besides ensuring the technology is of a sufficient standard, it is also important that employees’ devices complement the way they need to access their computing resources. Lafarge was interested in finding out how the latest generation of touch-enabled Ultrabook™ devices running Windows® 8 could aid productivity by offering staff a more convenient, intuitive and secure platform for completing their work. In particular, the team wanted to see how the devices could support a security strategy based on ensuring the reputation of the data employees use, helping further safeguard the intellectual capital that is central to the success of the business.

Solution

IT managers tested sample touch-enabled Ultrabook devices running Windows 8 and powered by the Intel® Core™ i7 vPro™ processor¹ to determine their suitability as a business IT platform. Besides testing the processing performance of the devices, the team evaluated their ability to provide a secure, reliable and trusted platform for conducting business.

It considered features such as embedded hardware support within the processors for quickly encrypting and decrypting data on the device to ensure it cannot be compromised or accessed without authority, and the ability to remotely disable unauthorized access to devices using Intel® Anti-Theft Technology (Intel® AT)². Evaluating the practical potential of the devices as business tools was also a priority: the team wanted to see if the new touch-enabled features of the hardware and software could help employees work more productively.

Benefits

Lafarge’s tests with the Ultrabook devices highlighted their potential to deliver higher-performing and more flexible IT resources within the enterprise. The IT team was impressed with their processing performance, form factor and intuitive user interface, which offer the potential to boost the speed with which staff can access and utilize information, and increase the pace of innovation as a result.

The team recognized that an IT platform based on Intel® technology and Windows 8 could enable businesses to proactively support the working patterns promised by the bring-your-own-device movement. With a single hardware and software platform that supports a range of different types of device and enables all of these to be managed uniformly, staff can pick the device that is best suited to the tasks they perform on a daily basis, knowing that it is fully supported by the organization.

The team also determined that the built-in security features of the Intel Core i7 vPro processor platform offer the potential for staff to do more with the computing resources available to them. By delivering a more secure, trusted environment in which users are confident that information and assets are protected without compromising on performance, this can remove many of the restrictions employees currently have to endure. Staff can be more mobile and can work with greater freedom as a result.

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¹ Intel® vPro™ Technology is sophisticated and requires setup and activation. Availability of features and results will depend upon the setup and configuration of your hardware, software, and IT environment. To learn more, visit <http://www.intel.com/technology/vpro>.

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