

# Apple Mac Solutions

for Media in Education





## Transforming the use of Mac's for Media in Education

In an increasingly media focused world, teaching students the key skills they need to engage with this rapidly changing industry is a challenging task for educators. Apple Macs have been adopted as the platform of choice by most media professionals, as they provide the most stable platform and support the key industry standard software titles.

Counterpoint's passion is to ensure that schools and colleges realise the potential of their investment in these creative technologies, by equipping them with 'fit for purpose' solutions that really deliver in the challenging classroom environment.

### What our customers say..

*"Counterpoint's Mac solution is the first I have encountered which I would describe as being fit for purpose within a School."*

*"From the outset, their concepts and confidence were unique; as was their understanding of education. They offered the level of integration that we wanted, and delivered a complete solution that works across our two sites."*

- Thomas Phillips, IT Services Manager, Thurston Community College



### Network User Homes

Networked Mac solutions for Media are normally configured so that users are directed to save locally on the computer. This is necessary for most key Media applications to run.

Unfortunately this means that work either cannot be reliably backed up or there is a need to copy files to and from external storage each lesson. As a result work can be lost, files get corrupted, and lots of time is wasted over the academic year.

In contrast, a Counterpoint solution allows Media students to work from a secure Network Home folder. This becomes their **default saving location** on any Mac they use, so storing files in the right place is simple. Students cannot delete each others work, and files can be reliably backed up every day.



### Network Media Projects

Media Applications such as iMovie, Final Cut Pro X and Premiere Pro only work correctly when users files are saved on local hard drives.

Counterpoint's Virtual Scratch Disk technology however, allows media and music projects to be created, stored, and edited directly from their Network Home folder without any application restrictions.

This proven technology is the only solution to allow all student and staff files, including media projects, to be managed appropriately. Students are no longer wasting time moving files around, and they are able to access their work from any machine in the department.



### Class Projects - Collaboration Tools

When students work together in pairs or small groups, projects are normally saved to one student's Home folder. Accessing this work when that student is unavailable is a very time consuming distraction for teachers.

Counterpoint's Class Projects feature allows a student to share access to files with other students. Each user then has access to the project from within their own Home folder, with the ability to open and continue editing the file at any time.

Students can also share projects with a teacher to a specific topic folder. This provides teachers with quick access to relevant student files during lesson time for class sharing and ongoing assessment purposes.



### Optimised User Experience

In an education environment, computers need to be networked so that students are fully mobile and their work can be reliably backed up.

To ensure Media applications perform on the network, a Counterpoint solution combines Virtual Scratch Disk technology with High Performance storage and a Mac Server with fast network connections.

Counterpoint optimises the performance of the Media Macs by managing key configuration features 'on the fly', including scratch disk tools, mobile user desktops, and key chain management. This ensures that teachers can focus on teaching without the frustration of intermittent technical issues.



### > Virtual Scratch Disk Technology

Virtual Scratch Disk Technology allows Music and Media applications to work fully in a school network environment.

Software like Final Cut, iMovie and Premiere Pro work directly from these disks instead of working locally on the machine, enabling students to easily access projects from any Mac in the department.

When using scratch disks, copying work backwards and forwards to the server each lesson is a thing of the past and all student work can now be backed up reliably.



### > Specialist Media Training

Whether you are a seasoned expert or relatively new to using Macs for Media, our specialist trainers are equipped to help you build confidently on your existing skillset and to stay current with the latest technologies.

Popular training sessions include Final Cut Pro X, iMovie, Premiere Pro, Logic Pro X, Sibelius and Adobe Creative Cloud applications, Padcaster and green screen use, recording techniques, plus Windows to Mac conversion courses.