

# FUNK FINECAST

## Solution Overview

**Industry**  
Manufacturing

### Scenario

Funk Finecast was using an old daisy-chain network that had become slow, outdated, and offered no remote access for their branch office.

### Company Profile

Funk Finecasts manufactures precision cast parts using the investment casting process. They produce machine parts as well as build and maintenance casting machines.

### Solution

By choosing AccuNet to provide them with remote access, Funk has been able to provide employees and branch office with the information they need.

### Technologies

Small Business Server 2003  
2003 Citrix Presentation Server 4  
Microsoft Windows Server 2003

### Benefits

- Better Internal Communication
- Quick Support when Needed
- Disaster Recovery and Peace of Mind

*Funk Finecast was using an old “daisy-chain” network that had become slow, outdated and offered no remote access for their branch office. AccuNet offered them a remote access solution to keep them up and running.*

Funk Finecast was started in 1970 to manufacturer precision cast parts. They produce and machine parts in a wide range of ferrous, aluminum and copper alloys. Many of their customers include manufacturers who respond rapidly to their markets. Thus Finecasts is ready to give them the parts and/or machines they need in a timely manner.

By using the AccuNet Remote Access Solution that includes the 2003 Citrix Presentation Server 4 and Microsoft Windows Server 2003, Finecast now can give remote access to their Machine Shop as well as any employee out of the office.

## Situation

Finecast has been using AccuNet for 6 years to act as their IT support since the company could not afford to have a full time MIS associate on staff. With a small budget for their network system, Finecast ran their network on a daisy-chain network, so that when one area of their network went down, any computer connected after that break went down as well. They had no way of including their remote Machine Shop into their network and were unable to get the information they needed from the Shop any faster than calling or stopping at the site.

## Solution

AccuNet approached Finecast with an overhaul of their current network. The plan consisted of moving their computers off of a horizontally connected system to the Small Business Server 2003. SBS takes care of all their emails, authentication, file sharing, etc. They also proposed that Finecast use 2003 Citrix Presentation Server 4 with Microsoft Windows Server 2003 for their remote access needs.

This was going to be a major purchase for Finecast, so the company management discussed the upgrade and decided that the need to upgrade, eliminate potential problems with their old system, and communicate with the outside world were reasons good enough to warrant a go ahead with the project.

“Our needs were met nicely by choosing AccuNet,” says Ed Moran, Controller for Finecast. “Our remote facility was now online and e-mail began to become the company communication vehicle.”

## Benefits

Funk Finecast experienced several benefits as a result of using AccuNet to provide them with a remote access solution.

### Better Internal Communication

With the new Citrix Server in place with Windows Server, Finecast employees at the Machine Shop location can now check their email and run their work in progress software over the internet. Not only this, but employees at headquarters use Citrix



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*Ed Moran  
Controller  
Funk Finecast*

as their primary way of connecting to their system, checking email, and accessing their business critical application such as their accounting system.

### **Increased Lifespan of Old Computers**

Since Finecast has a limited budget for IT, their new upgrade to SBS 2003 and Citrix Server allows them to access their information thru citrix as if they were operating on the most updated computers. All processing power for their network is performed over Citrix Server.

“By using Citrix as their primary way of connecting, Finecast was able to increase the functional life span of their local machines,” says Chris Tisdale, AccuNet Network Services Manager.

### **Quick Support When Needed**

Because of their remote access solution, AccuNet can fix most problems and solve most issues via their Citrix access. “We can set-up new users, troubleshoot Word problems, fix printer issues over Citrix,” says Tisdale. “Almost everything can be done remotely for them except for their monthly service plan on-site visits.”

### **Data Protection and Peace of Mind**

If the remote machine completely crashes, their data is still maintained on their server. Citrix provides them a way to get to their data, so they only need a machine with internet access.

### **Dedicated Provider**

“We consider AccuNet a partner in our business and rely on their expertise to advise Finecast concerning all software and hardware decisions,” says Moran. “Our decision with AccuNet was based on historical service and minimal problems.”

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