



Optimized for Government

Ohio Department of Youth Services



The mission of the Ohio Department of Youth Services (DYS) is to encourage positive change in the lives of youthful offenders through collaborative partnerships and culturally relevant therapeutic and academic interventions that support public safety and prepare youth to lead productive lives. **DYS** operates eight correctional and rehabilitation facilities as well as six regional parole offices.

Documents relating to each offender may come from courts, reception assessments, case communication, discipline records, psychological counseling, and correctional and educational facilities. In 2005, **DYS** began using **Optix** to help manage the large amount of paper work and reduce the need for transfer of physical documents between courts and **DYS** facilities. Starting with the Dayton Regional Office, Central Office records, Scioto and Indian River Juvenile Correctional Facilities, **DYS** began scanning main youth records into a central **Optix** repository using **Optix** Workstations equipped with Fujitsu fi-4120 and fi-5650 scanners. All of the eight

facilities and regional offices were able to access the central repository using native **Optix** Workstations and **Optix** Web thin clients on standard browsers. As the benefits of the new system became clear, **DYS** added the Akron Regional Office and the Marion Juvenile Correctional Facility. In September 2006, all sites began scanning main youth records documents and all **DYS** schools began scanning educational and vocational information into a separate **Optix** repository.

Today, **Optix** manages over 900,000 records for **DYS**, and the benefits are easy to see. Previously, a regional office could expect to wait up to two months or more for a youth offender's paper-based file to be transferred from the reception facility. Today, this information is available to the regional office in less than a day. Starting with a pilot system in 2005, the **DYS** **Optix** system has expanded to provide remote scanning capabilities to all regional offices and facilities. Authorized users at any location can access the documentation on any youth offender in the system at any time via **Optix** Web and any standard browser. This secure and rapid access to records has greatly facilitated reentry planning by parole officers.

Aside from the increased efficiency of operations, **Optix** has had a beneficial impact on the bottom line. According to Gretchen Faulstich, Administrator, Office of Youth Records for **DYS**, "Using **Optix** to store main youth records and educational records has cut down dramatically on copying and postage costs."

"Optix reduced our transferred records access time from two months down to less than a day, facilitated reentry planning, and provided dramatic savings in copy and postage costs."

Gretchen Faulstich
Administrator
Office of Youth Records