



**Award:** *International Diploma in Computer Studies*

**Module Title:** *Networking*

**Assignment Title:** *Puttasala Holdings LLC*

**Examination Cycle:** *June 2009*

**Candidate Name:**

**NCC Education**

**Candidate No:**

**Submission Date:**

**Important Notes:**

- ❖ Please refer to the Assignment Presentation Requirements for advice on how to set out your assignment. These can be found on the NCC Education *Campus*. Scroll down the left hand side of the screen until you reach Personal Support. Click on this, and then on Policies and Advice. You will find the Assignment Presentation Requirements under the Advice section.
- ❖ You must familiarise yourself with the NCC Education Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism Policy and ensure that you acknowledge all the sources which you use in your work. The policy is available on *Campus*. Follow the instructions above, but click on Policies rather than Advice.
- ❖ You must complete the '**Statement and Confirmation of Own Work**'. The form is available on the Policies section of *Campus*. Scroll down the left hand side until you reach Personal Support. Click on this and then click on Policies and Advice.
- ❖ Please make a note of the recommended word count. You could lose marks if you write 10% more or less than this.
- ❖ You must submit a paper copy and digital copy (on disk or similarly acceptable medium). Media containing viruses, or media which cannot be run directly, will result in a fail grade being awarded for this module.
- ❖ All electronic media will be checked for plagiarism.

**Marker's comments:**

**Moderator's comments:**

**Mark:**

**Moderated  
Mark:**

**Final  
Mark:**

## Introduction

You have been appointed as the Network Manager for **Puttasala Holdings L.L.C**, a large multinational organisation which has an extensive network of PCs. However, it has been decided to see if it is possible to save money and reduce the technical support overhead by implementing a number of Network computers (NCs) as a direct replacement for normal PC workstations on the network.

Note that Network Computers are sometimes referred to as Thin Clients and for the purposes of this assignment you can regard the two types of products as the same.

## Assignment

This assignment has been designed to determine whether you fully understand the concept of the Network Computer and implications of its use in a network environment.

## Aim

To investigate the use of Network Computers in place of PC workstations.

### Task 1 – 15 Marks

Discuss the specific obstacles and incompatibilities that may arise in a multivendor networking environment by illustrating a scenario in your college or considering different departments in a company of your choice.

### Task 2 – 15 Marks

Using the Internet and any other available library resources, investigate precisely the characteristics of various Network Computers (NCs) currently on the market.

### Task 3 – 40 Marks

Once you have done the necessary research, you should produce a feasibility report that details the following:

- A brief description of a Network Computer or Thin Client. (8)
- A list of the benefits and possible drawbacks associated with the adoption of Network Computers. (8)
- Any case studies which detail the experiences of other organisations who have implemented Network Computers or Thin Clients. (8)
- A brief section on the business benefits of using Network Computers, in particular focussing on the cost of ownership issues.(8)
- Identify the network support infrastructure required to utilise Network Computers. Compare the two different solutions offered by two different vendors and document this in your report. (8)

## Task 4 – 30 Marks

Produce a comprehensive project plan for implementing a solution based on Network Computer products. This should include the following:

- The preparation required before actually carrying out the implementation.
- A list of any additional hardware and software that may be required for the project.
- A step-by-step set of procedures to be followed in order to complete the implementation of a solution based on the use of Network Computers.

## Guidance

Consult with your tutor during and after the research stage to ensure that you have a thorough grasp of what Network Computers are and the infrastructure required to implement their use within an organisation.

During the development of your project plan discuss the schedule with your tutor who may give advice on any problems with the schedule.

## Submission Requirements

A single word-processed document containing all reports and other documentation required for all the tasks (1-4). All documentation outlined should be signed and dated by your tutor - i.e. the report and project plan to implement the solution, and the procedures for performing the implementation of Network Computers in the organisation.

Reference all source materials used in the preparation of your reports.

Notes should be made of any research carried out.

A soft copy of the documentation must also be submitted on disk along with a printed copy of the documentation.

### **Warning: All media must be virus free!**

Media containing viruses, or media which cannot be run directly, will result in a FAIL grade being awarded for this module.

**You must read and understand NCC Education's policy on 'Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism'.**

**You must complete the 'Statement and Confirmation of Own Work' form and attach the completed form to your assignment.**