SMCC Technology Obsolescence Plan
2024 - 2029

Obsolescence planning is the strategic planning of when equipment or components will become useless, non-functional or out of date. It helps to know beforehand the specific time in which the equipment should be replaced in order to mitigate the risk of business interruptions. Effective obsolescence planning enables SMCC to plan ahead with their suppliers and request the necessary budget dollars accordingly.

South Mountain Community College's Technology Obsolescence Plan focuses on four primary areas of equipment utilized throughout the campus to support Faculty, Staff and Students. Those areas are: Computers, Audio Visual Equipment, Servers and Network Equipment. Each area having a different lifecycle based on industry best practices, warranties, software updates and risk mitigation.

Obsolescence is inevitable and affects a variety of technology resources throughout our campus. As our dependency on technology to do our day to day tasks continues to increase, it is critical to take a proactive approach in managing the support of these systems and reducing the chance for business interruption. Obsolescence affects system supportability, safety and mission readiness. In order to ensure a cost-effective continuity of support – this obsolescence plan has been developed to document the principle, framework and measures to address obsolescence issues. It is also meant to communicate our strategy of being fiscally responsible in replacing equipment at the most effective lifecycle timeframe.

The technology lifecycle timeframes listed within this plan have been developed through a collaboration of all ten colleges within the Maricopa County Community College district. These timeframes are identified as a minimum lifecycle and some colleges may elect to expand the lifecycle of some equipment based on risk, use or leadership preference. An example of this extended lifecycle would be the student computers located in the cafeteria area – where we have chosen to replace them on a 7-year cycle instead of every 5 years due to their convenience usage and not being a classroom dependent resource. The college maintains inventory records for all IT assets and utilizes this inventory in its annual planning for budgetary requests and obsolescence replacement needs.

In accordance with district policy, all IT assets which have been removed from service are to be transferred to Wood Street Surplus for disposal and/or sale via auction. The appropriate transfer documentation is required to accompany the equipment and the asset status updated within the Maricopa Community College Financial Management System.

This plan is to serve as a guide, reference and documentation to communicate a structured approach to maintaining a fleet of IT assets and resources that meet the needs of the college. Accordingly, the plan should be reviewed annually and revised as needed.

The annual budgetary requirements vary each year based on when new equipment was brought into inventory and what equipment may not be replaced due to utilization, etc. The Associate Vice President of IT works with the Help Desk Supervisor, Network Engineer and

Audio-Visual Analyst to prepare an annual outline of obsolescence replacement needs which are presented to the Vice President of Administrative Services. Some of the expenses will be associated with Capital Budgets while others will be Operational Budgets often funded by carryforward dollars due to a lack of permanently allocated resources.

As of 2024, the campus has approximately the following quantities:

- Computers – 2,255
- Audio-Visual Classrooms, Conference Rooms and Meeting Rooms - 97
- Servers – 18 (60 virtual machines)
- Storage Devices – 3 (61TB total)
- Network Equipment – 70 building switches

Technology	Lifecycle (# of Years)
AV Projectors	6
Copiers	8
Desktop Computers* (Students)	5
Special Workstations / MAC* (Students)	5
Desktop Computers* (Employees)	5
Special Workstations / MAC* (Employees)	5
Laptops (due to battery life)	5
Special Laptops (those not considered under current standards with HP or Apple)	5
Network (Distribution Switch Ports)	8
Network (Core Network Ports)	8
Network (Storage / SAN)	5
Network (Wireless Access Ports)	5
Physical Security (Cameras)	7
Printers	8
Servers	5
Load Balancers	8
Control Systems	5
Large Crestron Control System	5.5
Firewalls	8
Switches and Routers	8
Network (Aggregation Ports - MDF)	5