Architecture School Goes Against the Grain

Most Australian CAD users work with Windows-based architectural design software, but the School of Architecture and Building Studies at the University of Technology (UTS) in Sydney has bucked the trend by choosing to install Macintoshes to run both Macintosh and Windows software.

“We knew that the Macintosh computers were easier for students to pick up and use and would give us simple, good quality printing whilst being easily networked,” says Craig Langston, senior lecturer.

“We engaged a private consultant to compare the range of Unix workstations with Windows-based PCs and Macs running A/UX 2.0. We were told that the operating cost of a Windows network would be twice as much as a Macintosh network.”

Students in the new laboratory will use ArchiCAD for the Mac, which Langston says is ideally suited to teaching applications. Using Bootcamp and Parallels to run Windows on the Macintoshes will also provide students with access to a range of Windows applications common in the building and architecture professions.