



## CASE STUDY

# Texas State Technical College Builds Data Center for Student Learning, Sticks to Budget with Tripp Lite



## SUMMARY

### Customer

Texas State Technical College offers a highly specialized technical curriculum across its 10 locations throughout the Lone Star State, including its newest campus near Houston. The new TSTC campus offers associate degrees and certificates in Cyber Security to prepare students for careers helping corporations prevent data breaches. The school's hands-on training uses the latest-available equipment and software.

### Challenge

Instructors in the Houston campus' new Cyber Security program were tasked with building a Network Server and Administration Lab with a production-style feel of a data center. Like virtually all educational institutions, TSTC operates on a limited budget. The instructors found Tripp Lite solutions that could provide all supporting equipment for the lab within the allocated funds, from a single source at a volume discount.

### Solutions

#### Racks and Accessories

- [SR2POST](#) 45U Open Frame Rack
- [SR4POST](#) 45U Open Frame Rack
- [SRCABLELADDER](#) Cable Ladder

#### Network Server Surge Protector

- [DRS-1215](#) 1U Rack-Mount Surge Protector

#### Other Equipment

- [Tripp Lite Patch Panels](#)
- [Tripp Lite KVM Switches](#)

### Results

Cyber Security Instructor Ryan Hill turned an empty room into an integrated and flexible classroom with open frame racks, cable ladders, switches, patch panels, surge protectors and KVM switches from Tripp Lite. Hill looks forward to using the lab and the Tripp Lite equipment to provide a great learning environment for students to keep them interested and drive them to excel in the coursework.

*Tripp Lite's affordability allowed for a classroom setup that is more flexible and functional, all thanks to Tripp Lite's support team. When contacting Tripp Lite for support, there was no hold time; everything was handled as close to real time as possible.*

—Ryan Hill

Cyber Security Instructor

Texas State Technical College, Fort Bend Campus

## Customer

Texas State Technical College (TSTC) offers a highly specialized technical curriculum across its 10 locations throughout the Lone Star State, including its newest campus near Houston. TSTC is the only college in Texas to adopt a funding model based on student employment outcomes – aligning with its mission to strengthen the state with a highly skilled, technically competent workforce.

The Houston area has an urgent need for workers with computer- and engineering-related skills to fill positions at companies in industries such as aerospace, healthcare and oil and gas production. As part of its technology-focused curriculum,

the new TSTC campus offers associate degrees and certificates in Cyber Security to prepare students for careers helping corporations prevent data breaches. The school's hands-on training uses state-of-the-art equipment and software, including programs used by the FBI to track and catch cyber criminals.



## Challenge

Instructors in the Houston campus' new Cyber Security program were tasked with building a Network Server and Administration Lab to give students a realistic view and production-style feel of a data center...one that is able to grow and change as the technical curriculum evolves. Like virtually all educational institutions, TSTC operates on a limited budget. Working with Ryan Hill, a TSTC Cyber Security instructor, and a reseller, Tripp Lite identified solutions that could provide all supporting equipment for the lab within the allocated funds. The solutions from Tripp Lite enabled the school to build the lab with cost-effective and reliable infrastructure, using the same type of equipment students are likely to encounter throughout their careers.

## Solutions

### Racks and Accessories

#### [SR2POST 45U Open Frame Rack](#)

#### [SR4POST 45U Open Frame Rack](#)

- Organize an equipment array, while providing easy access to installed equipment
- As needs grow, multiple units can be bolted together

#### [SRCABLELADDER Cable Ladder](#)

- Safely routes cables to eliminate cable stress
- Can be installed in a parallel or perpendicular configuration



### Network Server Surge Protector

#### [DRS-1215 1U Rack-Mount Surge Protector](#)

- 14 outlets and 15 ft. cord
- 3000 joules of surge protection



### Other Equipment

#### [Tripp Lite Patch Panels](#)

- Provide easy installation, organization and management of network cables

#### [Tripp Lite KVM Switches](#)

- Convenient IT systems management without the expense and clutter of a dedicated keyboard, mouse and monitor for each computer or server



## Results

Cyber Security Instructor Ryan Hill started with an empty room that had only Internet-enabled PCs and turned it into an integrated and flexible classroom with open frame racks, cable ladders, switches, patch panels, surge protectors and KVM switches from Tripp Lite. "Tripp Lite's affordability let us do more with the budget we have," Hill said. He noted the sturdiness, dependability, versatility and affordability of the products made Tripp Lite the school's go-to for all supporting equipment.

The campus has just started its third semester of the Cyber Security program, but plans are already in motion for future subjects covering Intrusion Detection, Security Assessments and Auditing. Hill looks forward to using the lab and the Tripp Lite equipment to provide a great learning environment for the students to keep them interested and drive them to excel in the coursework.

### About Tripp Lite

Since 1922, Tripp Lite has established a global reputation for quality manufacturing, superior value and excellent service. Tripp Lite makes more than 3,000 products to power, protect and connect electronic equipment, including UPS systems, replacement batteries, PDUs, rack systems, cooling solutions, surge protectors, KVM switches, IP console servers, cables, display solutions, power strips and inverters. Headquartered in Chicago, Tripp Lite maintains offices worldwide.



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