

Lydia Gacond IT Application Supervisor and Project Manager, Intercantonal University of Applied Sciences of Special Needs Education Zurich



At a glance

For several years now, the HfH has been successfully using the daylight school, course and event management solution from daylight AG.

In everyday use, daylight proves to be an efficient, stable, easy-to-use and highly flexible platform that covers tasks such as student administration, address and start-up administration, registration, resource management, accounting, marketing and web publishing.

Tailor-made expansion modules were developed by daylight AG for various special tasks: for example, the fully ECTS-compatible ("Bologna") examination management or the very complex recording procedure due to the intercantonal structure of the university.



THE UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES IN SPECIAL NEEDS EDUCATION IS CONVINCED BY DAYLIGHT.

For several years, the Intercantonal University of Applied Sciences in Special Needs Education (HfH) has been successfully using the daylight integrated school management solution by daylight AG, Winterthur. With the aid of this powerful platform for training, course and event management, the HfH was able to streamline numerous processes and simplify administrative procedures. The cooperation with daylight AG is praised in the most glowing terms.

Education in German-speaking Switzerland

The Intercantonal University of Applied Sciences in Special Needs Education (HfH) in Zurich is a practice and science-oriented university for the field of special needs education, which is supported by 13 German-speaking Swiss cantons and the Principality of Liechtenstein. It trains students in the specialist areas of special needs education and provides professionals with comprehensive training opportunities. Other focal points include research and services such as evaluations, specialist audits and expert opinions. All Bachelor and Master degrees from HfH are recognised both nationally and internationally.

Wanted: a flexible, future-proof platform

Following a change of ownership, the realignment of the school administration software originally used by the HfH did not go as expected. The university began to look for an alternative. Project Manager Lydia Gacond: "We knew daylight AG as a service provider and we worked very well together. It was therefore obvious for us to include the daylight product in the evaluation. The main objective was to replace the old solution as seamlessly as possible, without sacrificing functionality and ease of use. At the same time, we wanted to leverage optimization potential and make a technological step - the keywords being Web and Self-service." The specifications included process support for administration of students, addresses and events, registration, resource management, accounting, marketing support, a web front-end for students and lecturers, as well as the integration of existing peripheral systems.

Enhanced daylight with customised modules

Almost all required functions were able to be covered with daylight 'straight out of the box'. A special challenge however was the integration of the HfH into the ECTS system ("Bologna" point system), which harmonises higher education qualifications and credentials across Europe and awards ECTS points ("credits") for study units. daylight AG developed an expansion in daylight for the management of ECTS credits, which was tailored precisely to the requirements of the Federal Statistical Office. For the examinations coordination too a special module was developed. Likewise, the logic of the complex recording process due to the intercantonal structure of the university could be mapped in daylight. Candidates are registered centrally in daylight and then automatically loaded with exam materials, exam dates and more information, or processed as part of marketing campaigns. At present, 60 people from administration and technology are working at HfH daylight; daylight Web is used daily by about 120 lecturers and 1000

"DAYLIGHT IS ABSOLUTELY RELIABLE AND DAYLIGHT AG SUPPORTS US IN AN EXEMPLARY MANNER IN THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF THE SOLUTION."

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students. Every year, 750 undergraduate and 170 continuing education courses are successfully managed.

Administration streamlined, processes optimised

Lydia Gacond has been won over by daylight and applauds the good cooperation with daylight AG: "In close cooperation with the

professionals of daylight AG, we were able to optimise several processes. daylight is very flexible when it comes to implementing individual needs. For the first time, we feel that the software adapts to us, not the other way round. The operation of the software is very simple and intuitive. Anyone who is at home in the Office world can deal with daylight quickly. I'm always surprised how very few support requests come in." There are also many small improvements that make life easier for the administration team, lecturers and HfH students.

Lydia Gacond: "Separate administration of people and addresses has many advantages. Likewise, lecturers can assess their students directly in daylight Web. In the old system you had to make a detour each time across the class. " As an intercantonal-funded university, the HfH has very specific statistical and reporting needs. With the ECTS module

> tailored to BFS terminology, staff today quickly generate corresponding evaluations. The high flexibility of the software and the responsiveness of the provider also prove to be very helpful in internal changes. In the summer of 2017 HfH underwent a major restructuring. Three Departments became five institutes. daylight AG sorted out the necessary software adjustments quickly and reliably, for example in the case of account plans. Also for registration to elective modules, which leads annually to a selective run of students on the main system,

daylight AG has quickly and efficiently developed an efficient solution.

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