

Computer Sim Room OETIO [Media Alternative]

Summary: Lee Charlebois, ITS Supervisor of the OETIO Morrisburg campus, walks us through the college's Virtual Simulators that emulate operating heavy machinery. He details the benefits of working in a simulation and the benefit it has on

Interviewer: What do you do here?

Lee Charlebois: I'm the ITS Supervisor, so I take care of all of our computers at this campus and in Oakville and part of that is making sure all these simulators work. So we have four VX advantage simulators that we purchased from a company called CM Labs in Montreal. Each of these simulators can run upwards of seven or eight different pieces of equipment with pretty limited swapping of controls and configuration of the screens.

So we can do anything that you can think of for heavy equipment and for hoisting. First thing would be muscle memory for students to learn how to control different aspects of the different machines. They definitely benefit from that. For them to be able to practice real world scenarios that they wouldn't be able to get put in out in our practical fields like around power lines, for example.

So, they have quite a few exercises like that, that they're able to practice and fail and then and then try it again. I guess is probably to see the students while they're on the simulators. Their first reaction is to have fun and to laugh about it but then whenever they really start to get serious and actually start to learn.

That's probably what I would say is the most rewarding thing for us here.