



Axian's eXam workplace: Control of the digital exam process

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Why Axians?



Why take a digital exam?

Development is central to education. In addition to a qualitative and attractive educational offer, it is essential that educational organisations monitor student performance by formative or authentic and ultimately summative assessment. Of course, to continuously evaluate and refine their performance and their own offer, but also to be transparent for new students and supervisors. Institutions must therefore at least ensure that the examination process runs smoothly and that the quality and safety of all process steps are guaranteed.

Although an exam is a core activity in education, the organisation of tests proves to be a challenge in practice. For example, the role of examination officer is usually not a clearly defined position. In many cases, a teacher organises the exams in addition to regular teacher work. The risk is that they have to reinvent the wheel every time and continuity is not guaranteed. In addition, students are very digitally skilled and savvy, which means that security and fraud prevention require a lot of attention. A flexible and automated digital process gives educational institutions more control over exams. From preparing the exam and setting up a special exam workplace to the assessment and possible complaints handling. The educational institution and supervisors then have the assurance that examinations are conducted transparently and according to the rules. And if something deviates, this will be signalled. This prevents errors and safeguards the exam knowledge in the organisation.

"In many cases, a teacher organises the exams in addition to regular teacher work"



eXam workspace for and by education

In order to optimally support educational institutions in the design, implementation and management of a reliable and safe test and exam process, Axians has developed the eXam workspace in close collaboration with educational institutions. This dynamic exam platform, on which a variety of test applications can land, offers education the opportunity to set up exam workplaces fully orchestrated and according to their own discretion. The exams are made available to exam candidates automatically, manageably and securely at various locations. This way they are assured of a complete, centrally monitored and stable exam workplace environment. After the exam, results and relevant data are stored centrally.

With the eXam workstation, Axians offers a flexible pay per use virtual desktop service for the complete exam process, managed from one portal. From preparing an exam and setting up the temporary workplace to recordings of the process, including automated archiving. To use SURF's terms, the eXam workplace is a digital testing system with an extremely versatile playback environment. The entire process is transparent, technically in order, verifiable and scalable. Axians eXam workplace has been developed in collaboration with educational institutions and is based on the As a service principle. Axians relieves educational organisations and their IT teams in the digital exam process through a smart combination of building blocks and automation. This allows the coordinator to concentrate 100 percent on creating content, without having to worry about the availability and layout of the exam workstations. All resources, controlled access and security are completely covered. Including recordings of the exams.

“To use SURF's terms, the eXam workplace is a digital testing system with an extremely flexible playback environment.”



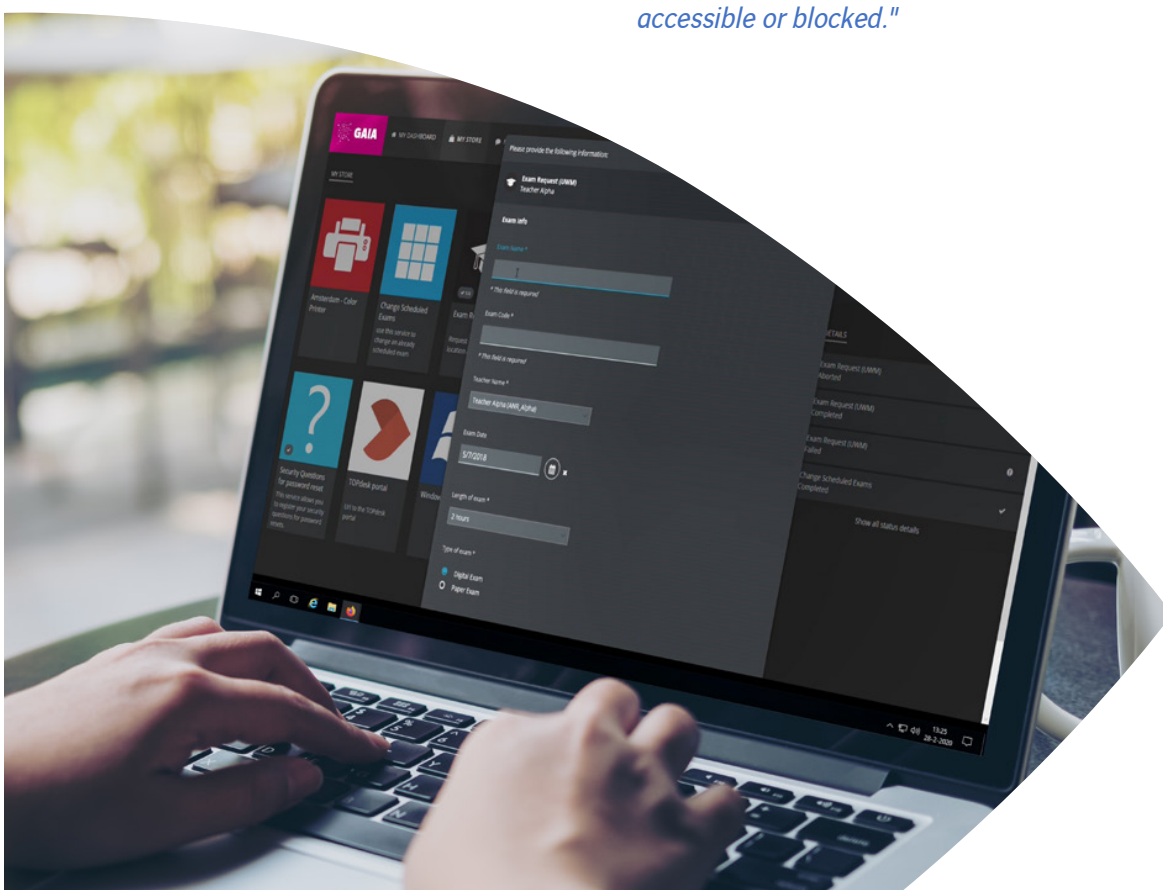
How does the eXam workplace work?

To ensure that the exam process runs smoothly, it has been incorporated into an automatic workflow. Lecturers create an exam environment in a self-service portal. Via a selection menu, they put together a customised exam environment, including the tooling and security settings that are required. Exams are easy to personalise and enrich with digital applications, and specific sites are also accessible or blocked. All settings are stored centrally and stored in profiles. In this way, an educational institution automatically builds its own library with exam environments. The portal is technically supported by Ivanti Identity Director. Ivanti Automation is the foundation for the workflow with all process and approval steps. Subsequently, the workplace is set up based on Ivanti Workspace Control. This entire process is fully automated.

The standard Azure Windows Virtual Desktop building blocks of eXam workplace are the basis for the design of the workstations in Microsoft Azure. This process is fully automated, so the IT department does not have to work extra. The required resources are always available and infinitely scalable. The workflow goes through all the necessary steps, including the invitation of the candidates. Just before the exam starts, the relevant exam environments are automatically activated. Via Citrix, the student logs in securely to the workplace, for example with 2-factor authentication, which automatically receives the correct settings. For example, whether or not to spell check, cut-paste function or access specific applications or websites. During the test, monitoring, recordings and checks take place to prevent fraud.

After completion of the test, the exam recording is automatically saved. The recordings are stored in a different, cost-effective location. In this way, all data remains available for a possible complaints procedure, audits or analysis of results. All measures have been taken to keep the data safe and in accordance with the applicable privacy rules. In this phase, the workplace is also automatically closed again, so that there are no additional costs. The process thus guarantees a reliable, safe and personalised exam process.

"Exams are easy to personalise and enrich with digital applications, and specific sites are also accessible or blocked."



The advantages at a glance

The Axians eXam workplace offers educational institutions much more than a flexible digital exam environment on which test applications can land. **Exams are taken as a service.** The Azure cloud offers unprecedented capacity on a pay-per-use basis during peak loads. Scaling up can be done dynamically and fully tailored to the exam schedule of an organisation. Workplaces are set up and activated just in time to prevent unnecessary cloud capacity. Especially for education, the use of Azure Windows Virtual Desktop is attractive because of the special licensing structure that Microsoft Azure offers the education sector. The eXam workplace therefore supports the bring your own subscription principle. This allows educational institutions to continue to make optimal use of their existing Microsoft agreements.

Educational institutions benefit from an **automated and testable process.** The exam process is recorded and easy to roll out. That way, exam officers can focus on controlling the process. All process steps are clearly recorded. This prevents duplication of work and reduces the risk of errors and fraud. The IT department is also unburdened. Both the organisation and the allocation of resources are automated, so that the IT department only has a controlling role. They can focus on projects, innovation and practical support for the exam process. Teachers can easily create attractive exams and focus on the quality of education and personal support for students. Finally, especially the exam candidates are assured of a personalised and smooth testing process. They always have a trusted (authentic) and fully equipped exam workplace where they can take their exam without disruption. And if there are any questions or uncertainties afterwards, the stored data and recordings always provide an appropriate answer.

Although an organisation largely transfers responsibility for the exam process to an external party, this is certainly not at the

expense of grip or control. Because the workflow is completely transparent, every step in the process is documented and can be tested, for both internal and external audits. **Security is also maximum.** Naturally, all data is secured in accordance with the most current laws and regulations. In addition, all possible measures are available during the exams to prevent fraud or other abuse. Access to exams is therefore at least based on username / password. The temporary workplaces have maximum security and are protected with antivirus and malware software and firewalls. Extra measures during the exams are always possible in consultation with the institution.

EXPERIENCE LEVEL AGREEMENT

Axians has structured the entire examination chain in a transparent manner based on best practices and standard building blocks of proven technologies and vendors. Thanks to the involvement of these vendors, all elements are optimally attuned to each other. Axians uses its broad knowledge and experience from the educational world for this. In addition to setting up the workflow, Axians monitors the examination chain 24/7. The performance, such as start-up time, session duration and potential disruptions are immediately visible in a dashboard. This data is the basis for the underlying eXperience Level Agreement (XLA).

Setting up a stable and safe environment for digital examination is as necessary as it is complex for many educational organisations. That is why many organisations are looking for a reliable and experienced partner who can arrange this for them smartly and efficiently, with an eye for flexibility and costs. With the eXam workspace, schools can fully focus on their core activity: ensuring that students can develop optimally and successfully complete their education. And all this with maximum control over a stable, safe and testable exam process.

"Teachers can easily create attractive exams and focus on the quality of education and personal support for students."

Why Axians?

Axians has been active in the education market nationally and internationally for years. We know the challenges of our educational organisations. Our services are tailored to the unique educational and research needs of these organisations. We also have a specific education team, with permanent employees who know through and through the universities, higher professional education and FE's we work for. This team works closely with our Innovation team. In concrete terms, this means that you get a permanent contact person on the line when you call with a malfunction, that a permanent Client Manager thinks about the business case and internal promotion, and that a permanent architect keeps an eye on how the digital resources of other parties are integrated into the existing environment.

Axians works according to established processes and procedures, which help us to always deliver high quality. At the same time, we are flexible enough to deviate from this if the situation requires it. The quality of service is always our top priority. We also like to work together on the basis of mutual trust.

“Axians works according to established processes and procedures, which help us to always deliver high quality”



A person with curly hair, wearing a light blue shirt, is seen from the side, working on a laptop. An open book and a pair of glasses are on the desk. The background is a bright, out-of-focus window. An orange semi-circular graphic is overlaid on the left side of the image.

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