The Company

Based in Stockholm, The Swedish Red Cross University College (Röda Korsets högskola) first opened its doors in 1867. Since its inception, it has focused on training nurses to work globally, including emergency relief and disaster prevention programs with the Red Cross.

With 650 students and 60 staff on board, paperwork in the form of contracts, agreements, and student files has quickly grown. In 2013, the University began searching for a solution that would enable it to handle its documents more efficiently.

The Challenge

Prior to installation, the University College found it difficult to manage its paperwork. Paper documents were saved in binders, and were sometimes difficult to find again. Even if documents were correctly filed, it still took a lot of time to find them. Johan Olofsson, IT Architect at the Swedish Red Cross University College reports that in addition, “Many digital documents were stuck in the user’s home directories and on computers, and when that person quit, it was difficult to search for precisely the document that the user worked with because of different folder structures, file names, etc.” All together, these processes were very time consuming, which was frustrating for the staff.

The Swedish Red Cross University approached Canon Sweden, to see if they would be able to provide a solution. After careful consideration, Therefore™ was chosen due to its ease
“It has become much easier to search for documents and contracts... It is no longer dependent on individuals if you want to find something. And we do not need to search a paper archive.”

Johan Olofsson, IT Architect at the Swedish Red Cross University College

The Solution

Now that the initial phase of the software rollout has been completed, university staff have achieved numerous gains in efficiency. Olofsson notes, “It has become much easier to search for documents and contracts because we can use free text search or limit the search to certain categories. It is no longer dependent on individuals if you want to find something. And we do not need to search a paper archive. Finding an agreement does not take longer than to start the program and typing a few letters, something that earlier in some cases could have taken hours.” In addition, since the software is easy to use, it was quickly adopted, without much training. Johann Olofsson reports, “Another great feature of Therefore is that the threshold for users to get started in Therefore has been very low. Just get the client installed, get a short intro to the search/storage features, and after that users quickly work by themselves”.

Since the first phase went so well, the University College is planning on expanding the installation to other departments and processes in the office. Olofsson says, “We are still working on implementing Therefore fully, and everyone who should have access does not have it yet, but we have chosen not to do a big-bang implementation, but rather bring it to the people who discover that there are easier ways to manage documents than just in paper format. The IT department has exclusively used Therefore since the introduction and even university-wide agreements and the records have been digitized.”

Overall, the University College is very pleased by its new way of working, and is looking forward to further increasing its gains in efficiency.