



## Cystic Fibrosis Association of New Zealand

**Who are they?** Cystic Fibrosis Association of New Zealand

**Where are they?** National Office – Christchurch, and twelve provincial branches

**What do they do?** Provide support for CF people and their families, through information, education, social support, assistance programmes, advocacy and research.

**What did they receive?** Microsoft Small Business Server 2003 Premium, Microsoft Office Professional 2007

**The Outcome?** A very efficient network that allows greater efficiencies within the office, and greater connectivity for staff on the road; and software to allow people with CF to maintain connection with a world that can become isolating to them due to their condition.

Last year when our computer system was limping along, trying to avoid an imminent fatality, Techsoup came to our rescue with software allowing us to upgrade to a server-based system. A large IT expense was just not on the cards for a small charitable organisation such as ours where government funding was minimal and funds from donors are aimed at the direct support programmes.

What a change! The timely upgrade has allowed our staff more efficient access whilst in the office, and also for our staff on the road and in remote offices to be able to access the information directly rather than via a call to the office and have it relayed over the phone.

I am actually sitting at home writing this case-study (due to the Christchurch earthquake) but still managing to offer our usual support to our clients throughout New Zealand, thanks to Techsoup software and our new system.

Microsoft Office Professional 2007, from Techsoup, has also been made available to each of our twelve provincial branches which has allowed them to upgrade to systems that are all compatible, making the sharing of information between branches and the National organisation much more efficient.

Another area where Techsoup has assisted our organisation is with the provision of Microsoft Office Professional 2007 for installation on laptops that we provide to up to ten of our clients each year. These laptops are instrumental in allowing these people to maintain a connectedness with their community and in particular with other CF people, an activity that is usually discouraged face-to-face for infection control reasons. People with CF can sometimes become isolated from their peers due to long hospital stays, periods of home treatment and susceptibility to picking up lung infections; Leaving them with a reduced support network.

The Cystic Fibrosis Association of New Zealand would like to thank Techsoup, Microsoft and their partners for this very generous donation.