

Making Education Colorful: ThermoFabHelps Put COW Multimedia Curriculum in Teachers' Hands

Ignite! Learning Approached ThermoFab with Little Time and Big Design Challenges

Challenge

Ignite! Learning had a proprietary multimedia educational curriculum for social studies that needed a very cool, attractive but durable package. In addition, the concept was a Curriculum On Wheels (COW) so there were obvious design requirements that needed appropriate consideration.

They approached ThermoFab with an existing production timeline designed to get the curriculum into educators' hands quickly. In addition, Ignite! Learning did not want to give up decision-making control, so ThermoFab and Ignite! Learning's teams needed to come together quickly.

Solution – One Call Does It All

ThermoFab engineers worked together with Ignite!'s team to agree on a custom plastic enclosure for Ignite!'s COW program: something that would be fun to look at, but practical and durable for the teachers to wheel around the classroom.

Using a combined strategy of management and manufacturing updates implemented in recent years, ThermoFab has increased production turn around by 50%. This was the tipping point for Ignite! Learning which needed a tangible custom product quickly to house their product.

"Developing COW was a 7-month process," said Alan Davis, VP of Technology and Business Development. "When we got to the packaging, specifically the plastics component, our primary goal was to develop rapidly, while staying very involved in the design efforts. ThermoFab's process was different than other companies' processes, allowing us to secure a more aggressive timeline than other firms could offer."

Result

It took just 6 weeks from submitting the first design to receiving the first sample.

"Our goal was to make a unique custom product that required a rich, bright color-scheme that Ignite! could deploy immediately. We worked with Ignite! engineers who explained their needs in regard to quality and color, and we nailed it on the initial production run," said the ThermoFab team.

Ignite! Learning was able to distribute COWs at both the elementary and high school levels within the appropriate timeframe. The initial curriculum of social studies and science will be expanded to include math in future versions of the program.



