

case study – The MIT Press is a university press based in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and affiliated with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Between new titles and reprint projects, the press is responsible for approximately 1,000 projects each year. This requires their staff to work diligently to move publications through the editing and manufacturing process on schedule.

WHAT THEY NEEDED – The MIT Press production staff are responsible for maintaining the budgets and schedules required to deliver finished projects on time to meet publication dates and marketing campaigns. The MIT Press needed a project management system that was easy to navigate and could provide them with real-time information about the status of their projects.

THE CHALLENGE – Staying on schedule and within budget is extremely important, especially with the large volume of projects The MIT Press handles. Their in-house project management tools couldn't give them the proper visibility for tracking their vendor-assigned projects, as it does not have access to their vendor's external, proprietary systems.

WESTCHESTER'S SOLUTION – Westchester's Client Portal provides the transparency and ease of use the production staff at The MIT Press requires to know exactly what stage their Westchester projects are at throughout the workflow process. Access to the Client Portal is provided at no additional charge for Westchester's clients, and is updated in real-time. The production team at The MIT Press relies on the Client Portal for information, including regular status reports about the projects they have assigned to Westchester. According to Jim Mitchell, Production Manager, "My team and I have been using the Client Portal for almost three years now. We consistently assign some of our most complicated books to Westchester, including edited collections, textbooks, and LaTeX projects. Having the ability to log in and access all of the information we need has simplified project management and communication for our internal teams. Westchester's Client Portal has greatly reduced the amount of time we spend on project tracking, and we appreciate the added benefit of having all of the project assets including PDFs, accessible in one secure location."

Contact Westchester Publishing Services to learn how we can help: