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Gafcon refurbishes computers for SD Unified schools

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The construction project management firm Gafcon, Inc. has refurbished thousands of laptops for use by house-bound San Diego Unified School District students.

Sixteen Gafcon employees are helping, with four leading the seven teams that are working on the project. The teams perform a multi-step process that includes locating the computers on the school campuses. They test, scan, disinfect and package each computer before loading them onto trucks to be distributed to students and teachers.

In one day alone, one of the Gafcon-led teams refurbished 2,100 computers.

Working with the district's IT staff, Gafcon employees visited multiple closed campuses to update older computers with new software. While the Gafcon workers aren't IT workers by trade, "the construction team was nonetheless enthusiastic to help the district and the students and teachers who would otherwise not have computers to continue the school year," according to a press release.

Gafcon has several ongoing construction projects at San Diego Unified campuses.

"Deemed essential workers in California, they were on site when they learned of the need to help refurbish laptops for students and staff," Gafcon stated. "They put down their hard hats and hammers and jumped in."

SDUSD plans to begin distance learning April 27.

Gafcon said it has a long history of volunteering. One of the company's leading principles is to "create value for our clients, our communities, and for each other. We believe our work is successful only if it creates impact. We provide value by focusing on the needs of the communities we serve, while operating responsibly."

Gafcon provides owner representative services to private and public clients. Incorporated in 1987, its core expertise is in managing complex design and construction activities.

Among its many projects, Gafcon is helping to lead the planned transformation of Seaport Village into Seaport San Diego, a major mixed-use development destined to transform the San Diego Bayfront.