



Applying CATS™ to Video Conferencing



Facility: GSA Executive Conference Center,
Willow Wood, VA

Principal Design Engineers:

Jim Smith, PictureTel, MA

Scott Sharer, Communication Design Group, GA

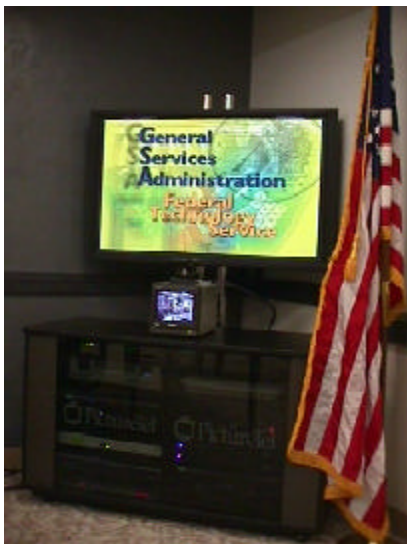
Installed by: Long Communications, NC

Project Description

The goal of this project was to design and implement a comprehensive interactive video conferencing and presentation system linking multiple outlying conference rooms together. The intention is to demonstrate the capabilities of interactive communication techniques by providing tools to streamline the business and planning processes, such that each room has comprehensive capabilities to enable the users to communicate powerfully, both locally and at a distance.

Key Requirements

Distribute high quality video to each of the conference rooms. Allow the equipment to easily integrate in with the other components of the system, and be controlled by the AMX control system.



The CATS™ Solution

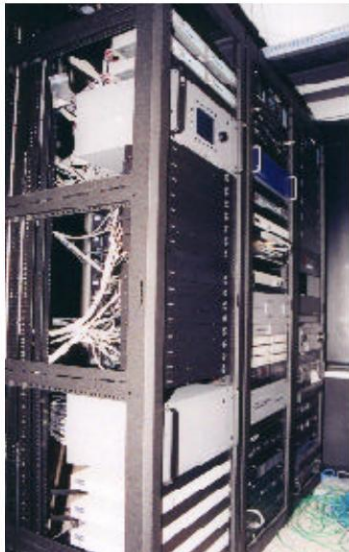
This is a very large project with 24 conference rooms that are pre-wired to share and utilize the 16 Videomodems (Venue 2000) from PictureTel. There are 6 Breakout Rooms with permanent setups with the Pragmatic CATS™ equipment and 15 rollout rooms where the carts with the Pragmatic CATS™ equipment and an AMX control panel can be quickly set up to participate in the video conferencing. There are 3 main conference rooms which are directly connected to the 64x64 A/V crosspoint matrix. All the control and switching are through the AMX AXCENT3 PRO controller.

Pragmatic Equipment

- 26 CATS™ Transmitters
- 6 CATS™ Multi-Source, Multi-Zone Switchers/Routers
- 26 CATS™ Receivers

Features and Advantages

- The CATS™ system delivers **superior audio and video quality**. This is achieved through the use of advanced and proprietary signal processing techniques, which results in a high-performance system with capabilities unmatched by traditional approaches.
- The CATS™ system uses **low-cost CAT-5 twisted-pair cables**, which lowers the installation time and costs.
- The CATS™ system provides a **complete system** for A/V distribution, switching, and fully under AMX control.
- The encoding mechanism has been specifically chosen so as to **avoid common problems** of noise, hum, ground loops, and frequency attenuation that often plague traditional systems.
- The combination of the switching and distribution system means that all of the remote zones have **full access to all of the source equipment** connected to the system.



Conclusion

This project was successfully designed, installed and made fully operational. The Pragmatic equipment met all design requirements. The unique CATS™ technology provides superior functionality for advanced projects such as this video conferencing application.

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