What is Videoconferencing?

Videoconferencing is a technology using audio and video to link sites worldwide, to enable meetings and collaboration. Financially it offers huge savings over real time travel costs and lost work time.

The University is engaging with green issues, and seeking to reduce its carbon footprint. Videoconferencing, replacing real time travel, can make a significant contribution towards this aim.

The University uses videoconferencing for student and staff interviews, for PhD vivas, for research and administrative group meetings, for distance learning and tutorials, and for lectures and presentations at remote conferences.

The service provides full high-definition video and state-of-the-art hardware. It also offers studio-based webcam solutions for connections with people who only have access to computer-based videoconferencing technology rather than a full studio setup.

We also offer site-wide availability of DS-Connect (Desktop videoconferencing and collaboration based on Adobe Connect) for you to use in your own institution on your own computers.

We can provide portable equipment for hire for off-UCS-site videoconferences, including codecs, cameras, microphones and peripherals.

Facilities

- High-definition Tandberg-equipped IP studio, seats up to 36, with 52” flat screen, visualiser, laptop, projector, modular furniture, lectern and secondary cameras.
- Portable Tandberg IP codec for off-UCS site use.
- Range of headsets, web cameras and microphones for use with webconferencing and collaboration solutions.
- Consultancy and advice on setting up your own videoconferencing or web collaboration facilities.
- DS-Connect (based on Adobe Connect) webconferencing software for use in Departments and Colleges.

http://www.ucs.cam.ac.uk/videoconf
Managing videoconferencing

Our technicians carry out tests and cover all technicalities of on-site videoconferences so that customers can concentrate on their meetings.

For our portable equipment, we provide full training beforehand in equipment use, including set-up and testing. If preferred, by prior arrangement we can usually supply technicians for off-site conference management too.

We can also offer consultancy – we are a centre of excellence for providing advice to departments or Colleges wishing to set up their own video or web conferencing facilities.

Charging

Typical studio-based conferences £40 per hour during office hours including technician support. Portable codec hire is also £40 per hour. Charges are as at October 2012, and plus VAT where applicable.

Further Information

Email: videoconf@ucs.cam.ac.uk
Web: http://www.ucs.cam.ac.uk/videoconf
University search: videoconferencing

Related services from the UCS

SMS - recording, encoding, storing and streaming institutional video content.

Managed services for institutions

Calendar – Google calendar with Raven authentication and calendars of University dates
Desktop – central filestore, managed print, application delivery, personal and group web pages
Directory – web- and email-based online directory with delegated management of content
Email – spam and virus filtering, managed mail domains, institutional mailing lists
Hosting – networked rackspace in a secure environment with redundant power, cooling, fire suppression
Consultancy and support – reviews and strategic advice, recruitment, induction and appraisal of staff, institution support service
Network – end-to-end network connectivity: IPv4, IPv6 or raw fibre, installation services, wireless, DNS
Search – institutional control of quicklinks and filtered searches, for web and directory searching
Telephony – VoIP telephony with institutional call-logging and billing access
Training Facilities – training booking system for any course provider, bookable facilities, customised training courses
Video – recording, encoding, storing and streaming institutional video content
Videoconferencing – fully equipped central facility, equipment hire, consultancy on institutional facilities
Web – hosted web servers, Wikis and content management system

General contact for managed services: UCS Institution Liaison office
Phone: 34720/48477
Email: institution-liaison@ucs.cam.ac.uk
Web: http://www.ucs.cam.ac.uk/linkpages/managed

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