



Case Study : Highland Council

Upgrade existing facilities and promote the use of video conferencing to minimise travelling time spent by councillors attending HQ's meetings

Client:

The Highland Council

Location:

Highland Council Chamber
and Committee Room,
Inverness

Project:

Upgrade existing facilities
and promote the use of video
conferencing to minimise travelling
time spent by councillors
attending HQ's meetings



Background:

Highland Council wanted to improve presentation facilities in a committee room and increase the use of video conferencing to reduce the amount of time councillors and officials spent travelling to meetings at its headquarters in Inverness.

Design Considerations:

The Council Chamber already had a full Bosch conference system with electronic voting and card readers supplied by Congress Systems Ltd a company with which Scotia has a long association. Congress Systems were able to upgrade this conference system with camera control software and automatic dome cameras which follow the speaker. Scotia provided the audio visual system that delivers both data from the electronic voting and video from the cameras to the display screens.

Scotia Solution:

Scotia UK installed a new Sony G50 Video conferencing system in the Council Chamber which is fully integrated with the Bosch conference equipment allowing participants from any of nine locations throughout the region to take part in

debates in the Chamber. The remote locations are displayed on a four metre projection screen in the chamber and the image of the individual member speaking in the chamber is transmitted to the remote locations allowing members to talk 'face to face'. To improve the quality of presentations in a committee room, Scotia installed a Sony dual plasma screen and Samsung UF 80 XGA overhead visualiser for Powerpoint presentations and video conferencing.

Result:

An easy-to-use AMX touch control panel at the top table in the Council Chamber can switch the source of information to allow Powerpoint presentations to be made or to view videos and DVDs.

The dual screens show participants in the committee room and those in remote locations. The system allows people in far flung parts of the Highlands to make Powerpoint presentations that can be watched in the committee room in Inverness.

"We are very happy with the system. Any bugbears were resolved quickly. They worked late to install the system and were very easy to contact if there were problems. My overall impression of Scotia is more than favourable."

Andrew Grant, Support Services Manager at Highland Council