

A Customer Success Story

LifeSize[®] Results

Large University in Denmark Uses LifeSize[®] UVC Video Center[™] to Share Critical Information with Three Dispersed Research Locations



AARHUS UNIVERSITY

Aarhus University, Foulum, Denmark

Organization

Aarhus University, also known as AU, is Denmark's second oldest and largest public university with over 43,000 students. AU is comprised of 15 major research centers and a number of individual departments and faculties, including the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences. With a focus on sustainability and high-quality foods, the faculty provides research centers for its students in three major cities, including Foulum which is the largest of three units within the faculty.

The Foulum Research Center is enormous and provides space for all educational activities and accommodates over 500 people, including technical administrative staff, lecturers, researchers and students, who are daily visitors to the site.

Challenge



Aarhus University's faculty of agricultural sciences needed a way to share information simultaneously with its three research locations.

Solution



The faculty purchased LifeSize UVC Video Center, the most powerful one button HD streaming, recording and auto-publishing solution on the market to accomplish this task.

Results



The faculty is now using LifeSize technology regularly. After calculating travel expenses and rental options, the faculty determined that the system will have paid for itself after one year.

Challenge



The other two research centers within agricultural sciences are located in Aarslev and Flakkebjerg, both of which are hours away from one another. The need for accessibility of information and effective communication was crucial.

“This need became very clear during the autumn of 2010, when the head of the faculty wanted to inform all staff members of a planned merger. This was to take place ‘live’ across the departments and destinations, and at the same time,” says Ebbe Birch, deputy head of the operations department, who together with his employees, Morten Andersen and Bo Bjerregaard, was given this task.



“We’ll definitely be using the system as an integral part of lectures, meetings and gatherings in future.”

- Ebbe Birch, Deputy Head of Operations, Faculty of Agricultural Sciences

Solution



Birch and his team decided to implement an HD video conferencing solution to achieve this goal. Together, they tested various solutions to determine the best product for their specific needs.

“Ultimately, we chose LifeSize Video Center, as we could see during the demonstration how effectively and simply our wishes could be accommodated – and surpassed. The function which enables live HD streaming of our recordings to over 1,000 destinations simultaneously and the freedom to save and review lectures and meetings as required hit the nail on the head,” said Ebbe Birch. “Then, of course, there was the question of finance.”

The team developed two different solutions. On one hand, they could have the option of renting the equipment for individual events. Alternatively, they could install the complete solution permanently.



“After we completed the calculations, we determined that buying the solution would have cost as much as renting it on four occasions. We knew we would use the solution far more than four times. I also calculated the cost of having a person come to Foulum from Fyn or Sjælland for a day including their working hours, food, and travel expenses. It was clear that the investment will have paid for itself within the first year alone on that account,” said Birch.

Results



The funding was granted and the project became a reality. Installation was extremely simple and the system was delivered and installed in the auditorium within a fairly short space of time.

“Using the LifeSize Video Center is straight forward,” said service employee Morten Andersen. “It is a pleasure to use now that the system has been in operation for several months and we have gained experience of the entire system.”

“The first day was very exciting, especially for us as we were responsible for the technology, and it went really well. People have gotten used to the solution. They are very impressed with the image quality, and in fact



we’ve had nothing but positive feedback,” said Birch. “The fact that users can even adapt the layout on their own PC at home is an added bonus. We’ll definitely be using the system as an integral part of lectures, meetings and gatherings in future.”



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