VTEL PARTNER CHANNEL PERSPECTIVE

CONTINUING THE COMMITMENT

VTEL

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Serving the Video Communications Industry

THIS WEEK'S ISSUE

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Look Me in the Eye: QuickFind Camera Control

VTEL offers a first-rate Camera Control System that can be used with Vista™ VX and Vista PRO videoconferencing systems. The QuickFind Camera Control System works with one or two pan-tilt-zoom cameras. The selected camera will find and focus on a programmed position or preset. This system is capable of activating camera preset positions with up to sixteen push-to-talk microphones or pressure-sensitive floor mats.

How It Works

When you're conducting a meeting or distance learning class, you don't want to be distracted by the technology you're using. VTEL's QuickFind Camera Control System is incredibly easy to use. The camera moves when the talk button on a push-to-talk microphone is pressed (by a student or conference participant), or when someone (typically the instructor or meeting leader) steps on a pressure-sensitive floor mat. The push-to-talk microphones and pressure-sensitive mats are options available from VTEL.

Advantages Over Other Vendors

Educators agree that eye contact between instructor and student is important. With the QuickFind Camera Control System, the camera can be set to zoom in on the student(s) who is using a particular push-to-talk microphone, allowing for good eye contact in a distance learning situation. A push-to-talk microphone on the student's desk will transmit a loud, clear voice from the student. Other vendors offer a single microphone designed to pick up all the audio in a large room. When used in a classroom, the single microphone tends to pick up unwanted background noise. Also, the gain of that single microphone may have to be set so high that in order to pick up far-away voices, the audio from that site is always being transmitted. In a multipoint conference, this may cause the voice-activated Multipoint Conferencing Unit to show the video from that site, even though no one is talking.

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Pressure-sensitive floor mats can be placed at strategic locations around the room, so that when someone (the instructor) steps on the mat, a camera will zoom in on that position. There is no need for the instructor to switch cameras. The VTEL solution will automatically switch cameras and position the camera appropriately.

When the instructor or meeting leader is standing on a floor mat, pressing a push-to-talk microphone will have no effect. This is to prevent students from taking control of the camera from the instructor. As long as someone is standing on the floor mat, that camera will not move, and another camera cannot be selected.

Components

The QuickFind Camera Control System, which can support up to sixteen push-to-talk microphones or pressure-sensitive floor mats, can handle classrooms of up to 48 students. It's typically installed in a VTEL cabinet and includes the controller module, input modules for up to 16 inputs (microphones or floor mats), power supply, and cable. The microphones, audio mixer, camera(s), and associated audio/video cables are included as part of VTEL's Vista Classroom Systems, or they can be ordered separately. It can be installed by the factory as part of a codec order, or installed in the field. The Suggested Retail Price is $3990. This option makes a valuable addition to any Vista videoconferencing system used in a distance learning application or for medium-to-large meetings.

Consult the VTEL Price List or call Intermedia CS for more information. +44 1983 754609

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VTEL Support Site: www.vtel.com/support/

VTEL's Technical Support Site has everything you need in one place. No login required. It's an easy-to-use library of documents and troubleshooting tools on all VTEL products. Check out what's available at www.vtel.com/support/

▫ Release Notes- a comprehensive list of fixes and enhancements for each software release.

▫ General Troubleshooting Help, "How To" Bulletins, Illustrations and Diagrams

▫ Installation Manuals, User's Guides and Software Rebuild Instructions