

Lambeth College

Audio Visual Case Study

Commonality of interface makes life easier for tutors at Lambeth College



Lambeth College is rightly proud of its excellent teaching facilities. It is rated as one of the best colleges in the country, offering a huge range of courses. Providing 21st century lecture rooms facilities is part and parcel of the college's drive for excellence.

AV Requirements

Lambeth College was already reviewing the audio visual facilities in all of its classrooms, including a number of temporary rooms.

Reflex Limited first built a relationship with the College when Dell, the college's IT provider, approached them to partner with them on the AV side. This resulted in a project of several classrooms being equipped in 2006.

When the College were ready to roll out this programme to a further 30 classrooms, they went out to tender and included Reflex on the tender list. Reflex was successful in being awarded the new contract in 2008.

Reflex was required to specify a range of solutions for a variety of classroom situations, and to provide a Project Manager to oversee the whole process.

An additional requirement in the tender was to provide a lightweight dry wipe 'overboard' to the Interactive Whiteboard installation. The aim of the College was to achieve a consistent quality of equipment in each room, and to ensure a commonality of user interface, so that lecturers could walk into any classroom and feel immediately comfortable with the equipment they were faced with.

The Solution

The basic installation in each of the classrooms comprised a projector and SMART Interactive Whiteboard. The mounting of the projectors varied according to the physical restrictions within the different rooms. Some were ceiling mounted, but some needed to be mounted onto boom arms because of the ceiling height.





The installations were augmented with a control system with inputs for PC, laptop, and DVD/VCR, along with an equipment rack to house the additional equipment securely and neatly.

To address the need for a lightweight overboard, Reflex, devised a bespoke solution tailored for each individual environment in partnership with a key manufacturer. This meant that teachers could easily manoeuvre between Interactive Whiteboard and normal dry wipe board during a lecture, accessing whichever tool they needed with one simple action.

Whilst the installations themselves were quite straightforward, the project demanded a high degree of flexibility from Reflex. Timescales were challenging and many of the rooms were in use whilst the installation project was carried out. Additionally, building work meant that contractors were on site. Reflex did a lot of the work outside of normal working hours to minimise disruption to the College and worked around third parties who also needed access to the rooms to complete the building work.

Summary

The project was carried out successfully with efficient working practices being the key to the smooth implementation. The College was very pleased with the result, being particularly impressed with the quality of the work and the project management. This resulted in a commitment to a one year maintenance programme with Reflex.

According to **Graeme Hill, the College's Head of IT**, "The project preparation and roll out went extremely smoothly, mainly down to the excellent coordination between the College IT staff and the Reflex Project Manager. Individual plans were given to the College for each installation, and these were presented well before the projected install dates to allow for discussion and changes to be made.

Reflex supplied us with a maintenance contract for all the installs they had undertaken, which gives us on-going support as well as regular preventative maintenance visits.

We are very pleased with the service provided by Reflex, particularly their ability to tailor their products to suit our specific requirements."

