Video Conferencing Terminology

UEN System

IVC (Instructional Video Collaboration): Two-way video and audio communication supported by a computer network that facilitates the interaction between people in two or more locations creating a virtual classroom or conference room.

H.323: A video compression/communication standard. H. 323. Is an algorithm that ensures the interoperability of IVC units, no matter the brand name, manufacturer, or vendor.

Bandwidth: Bandwidth refers to the capacity of a communication network to exchange data between two nodes on the network. Bandwidth capacity determines the amount of data – whether it is video, audio, or text – that can be transmitted through network channels in a given amount of time.

Bridge/MCU: If you're conducting a video-conference with more than two sites participating, the bridge, also called the MCU (multipoint control unit), connects the sites so that they can all communicate and interact at the same time.

Alias (e.164): An alternative identification for an e.164 dialing address as part of the statewide IP voice and video-dialing plan.

EdNet: The previous moniker used by UEN to describe the UEN-IVC Distance Learning System. Short for "Education Network".

UVC: A device used to stream and record scheduled IVC events. These recordings can be accessed through a simple web link.

Equipment

Touch Panel: The control system used to operate the features of an IVC classroom including layout views, camera controls, audio levels and system settings.

Crestron: One brand of touch panel used to operate the features of an IVC classroom including layout views, camera controls, audio levels and system settings.

Codec: Short for encoder-decoder, this device is the part of your IVC system that encodes or decodes audio and video signals. It can be used to convert analog signals to digital signals and vice versa.

Mixer: A piece of equipment used to control the audio levels in a classroom including student and instructor microphones.

Scheduling

Point to point: An IVC event that includes only two participating sites. In most cases, the connection is made using a direct-dial call that does not require the use of a bridge or a multi-point control unit.

Bridged: If you're conducting a video-conference with more than two sites participating, the bridge, also called the MCU (multipoint control unit), connects the sites so that they can all communicate and interact at the same time.

TMS: Cisco's TelePresence Manager Suite, the scheduling software used to schedule all video or audio conferences on UEN's network.

Classroom

Origination (Complex) site: The classroom where the teacher for an IVC class is located. This site usually includes the codec plus supplemental equipment such as an in-room computer, document camera, Smart Podium, two or three monitors, and two cameras (an instructor cam and a student cam).

Receive (Simple) site: A classroom that is receiving a broadcast for one or more students. These classrooms usually have a simple design with a codec, one monitor and one camera.

Far end/Remote Sites: Any classroom(s) that are receiving a broadcast.

Presentation/Content: Any material sent over the system by an instructor through a secondary video stream including PowerPoint presentations, videos, or the document camera.

Facilitator: The on-site individual who assists students during a video-conference, manages the equipment, and helps maintain a positive classroom experience.

Site Check: The time scheduled before the start of class (5-15 minutes) used to check audio and video connections with all sites participating in a broadcast.