



Who am I?

- David (Dave) Patterson
- Operations Manager, Communications with the Information Technology Directorate at CQU
- 14 Years with CQU
- Educational Technology is my passion
- Responsible for Technology in Teaching Spaces

What Spaces use VC at CQUniversity?

- Videoconference Teaching Rooms
- Videoconference Meeting Rooms
- Desktop Conferencing (pilot)

How many do we have?

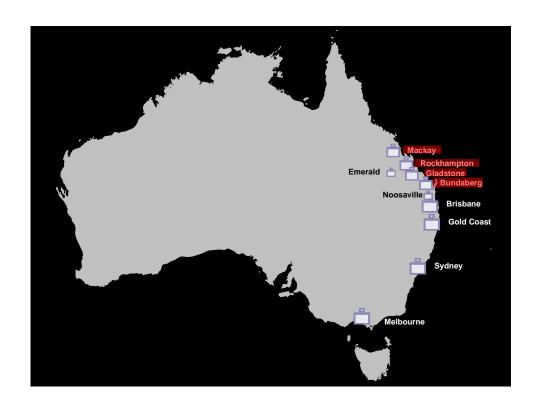
- Teaching Videoconferencing
 - 9 x Theatres (integrated AV, AMX control)
 - 7 x 'Studios' (VC endpoint + screens)
- Meeting Videoconferencing
 - 17 x Meeting Rooms (VC endpoint + screens)
 - 60 x desktop conferencing users (pilot)















A Little History

- •Long history of distance education
- Campuses
- Rocky

Gladstone

Mackay

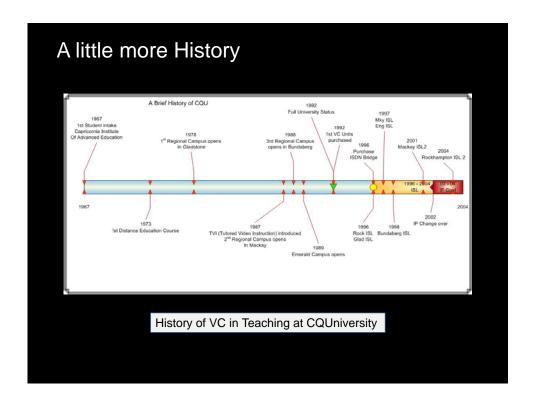
Bundaberg

Emerald

Adapter/adopters of technology

TVI (Televised instruction)

VAL (Video Assisted Learning)





The Project (Starting point)

- Scoping
- Design
- Resourcing
- •Timeframe
- Project Timing
- Testing
- •Go live!!!

Scoping

- Starting Point
- Technology update not a redevelopment
- Vendor Selection

User Interface

- •Change in the view seen by users
- Control interface design (AMX design principles)
- •How to display Dual Video
- Involvement of user group
- Development of prototype
- •Limit the number of focus groups (not many on campus at that time of year
- •Use of Web TP (save as function)

http://www.inunu.net/html/services/amx-services/touch-panel-design.htm

Design

- •Functional Spec developed with Ops staff
- Designer site visit
 - •On most challenging site
 - •Review of Functional Spec
 - •Initial design
 - •Return brief
 - •Tweaked ... and again and again

Insert Image of old vs new interface

Resourcing

- Limited staff 3 techs
- •Looked at outsourcing project
 - Too many sites too \$\$
- •Involve Campus tech staff
 - Normally Desktop support staff who provide level 2 support
- Outsource code development
- •User focus groups to guide development

Timeframe

Project initiation July 1 2009 Project completion March 1 2010

University break November 2 2009 to March 1 2010 (14 weeks)

University Christmas Closure December 24 2009 to Jan 4 2010

Project Timing

July – Sept: Design phase

Sept: User focus meetings

Oct: Procurement

Nov 1: Room build commence

Dec : Christmas break Feb: Functional test

Feb 19: Hand over

Budget

Previously done but not as full system uplift

Explored the benefits of full uplift

Standard equipment means:

Single code base

All rooms identical

Easier to code

Easier support

Additional funds required

Easy sell with these benefits

What did we upgrade?

- •AMX systems to NI 4100
- System code
- VGA switching and routing
- •CV Switching and routing
- •All VGA and CV Cabling
- Audio output control
- •User interface
- •Room Monitors all to VGA

Insert New schematic here

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The Plan

Timeline

9 rooms

Complete one Rockhampton Room Get Programmer started

1 to go to Mackay

1 to go to Bundaberg

1 to stay in Rockhampton

Final stage 2 to Gladstone

Back in Rockhampton for testing

Room approach

Strip equipment that is not to be reused Re-arrange rack to standard layout Tidy existing wiring Install new cabling Install new rack equipment Install new lectern equipment Install new room equipment Finish cabling Release room for test

Execution Plan

October 1 - Procurement

November 1 - Equipment delivery & Start rooms

November 15 – Programming start & Regionals

December 1 - Finished Bundaberg & Mackay

December 15 - Christmas break

January 4 - Start wiring Gladstone

January 15 - All wiring complete Finalise programming

February 1 - Functional testing

February 19 - Hand over to operations





Challenges and Strategies

Finite closure timeframe
Limited by teaching terms and no
backup system or spaces
All rooms have to be off line
9 rooms across 4 geographically separated
campuses
Limited staff to perform upgrade

Challenges and Strategies

RS232 Mixer recall
Constant contact with vendor
Design re visit to review alternatives
We had experience with AMX Vol
Quoted Delivery outside the project
timeframe

Challenges and Strategies

Changes in time requirements
New VC welcome lecture
2 weeks before go live

Had to revamp timeline and ensure adequate rooms ready

Delayed finishing of Gladstone

Challenges and Strategies

Equipment failure on restart

Unexpected risk
Wasn't catered for
Delayed release of 2 rooms due to
delivery delays
Project was 2 weeks late in closure



The Execution

What really happened Late budget Mixer recall

VC Welcome lecture 2 weeks early

Late budget Release

24th November all cleared to start

Ordering delayed
Christmas break
Unis are all in full maintenance mode
Engagement of programmer
Critical to the project

Challenges and Strategies

Budget late funds release

Need to review the processes

Take out fat were possible

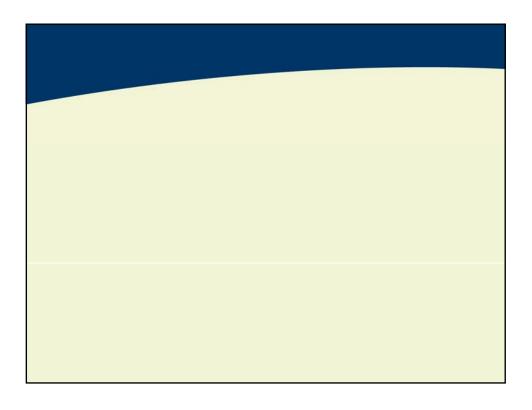
Re-jig anything that can be

At the end of the day be prepared to can it



What would we do again?

- Plan early
- •Keep Ops in the loop at all phases, utilise their knowledge
- •Involve the users through focus groups etc
- Standardise
- •Take the opportunity to update as much equipment as possible
- •Involve the local tech staff in the project
- •Project team meetings, as timeframe gets short increase the meeting frequency
- •Initial project review straight after the go live while it was still fresh



What would we do different and how?

Push for funding release as early as possible Have the capacity to postpone when time gets tight

Trust equipment that has been powered off 2 of the failed mixers have since been repaired under warranty

Project communications around room closure, changes benefits etc (timetabling etc)

What wouldn't we do again?

Wait for funds release

Have the capacity to postpone when time gets tight

When the critical date passes can it

Trust equipment that has been powered off 2 of the failed mixers have since been repaired under warranty

Leave the Operation staff to talk to the programmer

Benefits

From the IT Perspective:
Quantum leap in reliability
Easier support
Better monitoring
Changes in functionality easier to perform
Fault vs Bug vs feature management

Still need to conduct the post TI review with users

