D.I.B AUSTRALIA
Audio Visual Systems

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NEWSLETTER

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Mount Lilydale Mercy College – Food Technology Camera and Recording system

Mount Lilydale Mercy College, or MLMC, is a catholic co-educational school in Lilydale which has been catering to the needs of students from the Yarra Valley and outer eastern suburbs of Melbourne for the past 115 years.

The young men and women of MLMC are taught the important values of spirituality, learning and community in a supportive and nurturing environment.

Always exploring new ways to assist in enhancing the academic achievement of the 1500 students, the IT team at MLMC approached DIB with an idea to upgrade their Home Economics classrooms with some of the latest in video capturing and recording technology, helping to make the food preparation and cooking lessons more visual and valuable for the students.

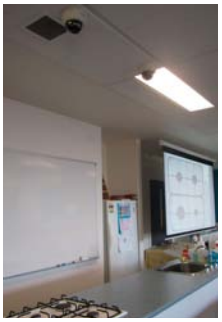
"By using two high quality EVO 2 dome cameras installed over the demonstration bench the teacher is able to not only show the demonstration projected live at the front of their classroom using a new Epson projector, but coupled with the installation of a Digital Video Recorder, or DVR, the teacher is then able to record the lesson with their audio instructions with a click of a button so students are able to review any of the recorded lessons!"

The Extron MLC226 control panel installed and programmed by DIB also allows the teacher to easily switch between which cameras, either above preparation area or above stove-top, are being projected. The panel also includes buttons such as record start/stop and microphone up/down making the system simple to use.

Bundled with the supply of a Wireless Headworn Microphone and installation of four flush mounted ceiling speakers, students are given the complete solution to viewing and hearing a demonstration happening at the front of the room from anywhere in the classroom, no more crowding around the bench!

For more information on food technology camera and recording system please contact a D.I.B Solution Consultant on (03) 9457 4800.

Above: Home Economics classrooms with some of the latest in video capturing and recording technology



Above: Two high quality EVO 2 dome cameras installed over the demonstration bench

Above: Digital video recoder

Above: The Extron MLC226 control panel

Balwyn High School – Theatrette

Balwyn High School is located in Melbourne's east and has an enviable reputation for learning. The school offers a wide range of co-curricular activities and at present one in five students hold a leadership position.

To complement existing classroom AV facilities, the school incorporated a theatrettette in the new 'DeZign' Art and Technology Building to create a high quality movie viewing environment. The Audio Visual (AV) Manager, Nigel Brown, approached DIB Australia to provide a solution for the design and installation of the theatrette AV equipment.

DIB Australia has tailored a dedicated solution to suit the school's needs. The Epson-TW5500 home theatrette projector was selected as the main theatrette projector due to its high contrast ratio that can provide a rich and vibrant coloured image, bringing content to life.

This projected image is displayed onto a large 126" (2790mm wide x 1570mm) 16:9 screen using an LP Morgan Galleria custom Plana AT fixed frame, covering the centre speaker. This specially designed acoustic transparent screen has sound transmission patterns similar to high quality speakers. **"The centre speaker, being predominantly for speech content of the film, provides a real sense of the person talking directly to the audience with the sound coming through the projector screen – this brings the movie content to 'life' and is a key feature of this installation."**

Surrounding the theatretheatrette is a high quality full 7.1 sound systems, including 3 x Turbosound 8" and horn TCX series speakers with the front speakers recessed into the wall providing a very neat finish. The main centre channel is wall mounted behind the screen and 4 x Turbosound TCX series 8" horn speakers for the surround and rear channels are fitted at higher level. The system is then driven by power amplifiers with approximately 250w per channel installed into the AV equipment rack.

To protect the projector from accidental damage or theft, a projector security cage was installed. An installed Joey Lite control panel simplifies the operation of the system with 24 programmable buttons (on, off, volume control, source selection etc.). The entire AV system is controlled by environmental power control which means a multi stage process is used to power up equipment limiting noise artefacts and heavy power draw. The system also features power filtering and surge protection to protect the sensitive electronics from potential harmful spikes.

With this new installation, students at Balwyn High School are able to experience film texts and other media content as the creators intended them to be experienced. This in turn has led to greater student engagement, a core focus of the school's approach to teaching and learning.

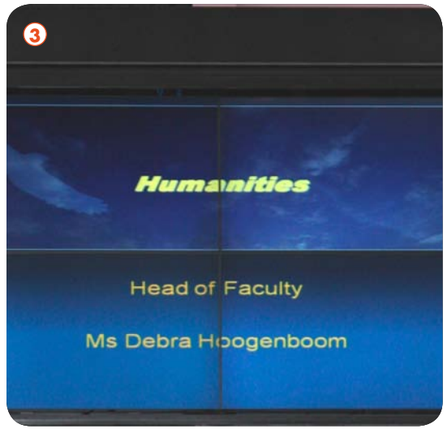
For more information on theatrette audio visual systems please contact a D.I.B Solution Consultant on (03) 9457 4800.

Above: 126" (2790mm wide x 1570mm) 16:9 screen with LP Morgan Galleria custom Plana AT fixed frame

Above: High Contrast Ratio Epson-TW5500 home theatre projector

Left: Joey Lite wall control panel with 24 programmable buttons

ALSO INSIDE THIS ISSUE...



ST JOHN'S REGIONAL COLLEGE — VIDEO WALL

St John's Regional College is a Catholic co-educational secondary school located in the south-eastern suburb of Dandenong in Melbourne. In 1958, the school opened with 120 male students in a tin shed. It has since that time continued to grow, and in 1977 St John's became the first Catholic co-educational regional college in the nation. Today the College has a population of more than 1100 students. The College features well-resourced facilities including recent upgrades to computers and computer access, an award-winning restaurant and hospitality kitchen, a refurbished lecture theatre, new Bakery/Patisserie kitchen and a new Language Centre.

D.I.B Australia has been working with St John's Regional College on the deployment of the school's AV systems since 2006, including the installation of projectors in various classrooms, theatre and the language centre. In 2010, the IT manager Brian Griffith approached DIB Australia looking for unique ideas to provide for visual presentation in their large (double basketball court) school stadium, the concept was to have two screens with the ability to use them in the daylight environment for assembly usage and other whole school events.

DIB investigated a number of options with Brian, including long throw projectors, rear projection screens, portable big screens and more etc. However most of these ideas were laid aside due to the concerns about image quality with the high ambient light.

"With the reduction in pricing associated with ultra thin bezel video wall technology, this became a viable alternative option. DIB set about designing a solution of custom protective housings and mountings as well as signal distribution and control to provide for two giant screens using video wall technology."

Partnering with NEC the technology was demonstrated to school stakeholders at NEC's Mulgrave office and was ultimately tested in a basic format in the school stadium before construction commenced.

DIB designed the system so that both screens could be used together in mirror mode, or just a single screen could be activated for smaller group requirements. Using TVOne vision scalar technology DIB simplified the signal distribution and control of the final solution. The system was setup with 3 x separate VGA input locations as well as a composite video input. All are selectable via a two simple Joey Micro control panels. The custom protective housings feature special roller shutter blinds which when closed lock together to create a protective metal barrier to any damage from fly objects such as basketballs.

As soon as the system is activated via the control panel, the roller shutters quickly open and the large video screens activate read for operation.

The system has been installed and operational since late 2011 and already has proven a hit with its utilisation being greater than expected and well above what it was before such as simple system existed in the space.

The Solutions Consultants at DIB enjoy a challenge and creating unique custom solutions to suit our clients needs. DIB looks forward to assist St Johns Regional College with future AV projects where possible.

For more information on video wall technology please contact a D.I.B Solution Consultant on (03) 9457 4800.

1: Two ultra thin bezel 2x2 video walls installed in the Gymnasium
2: Custom protective housings to prevent any damage from fly objects such as basket-balls.
3&4: Single screen mode of the video wall AV system
5: Joey Micro control panels

EPSON EB475Wi or EB485Wi

In the past you needed a projector and an interactive whiteboard to create an interactive environment in a meeting room or classroom. Now at almost half the cost compared to some interactive whiteboard installations, you can make your existing whiteboard, wall and even a table into an interactive workspace with either the EB-475Wi or EB-485Wi.

EPSON has recently launched the new ultra short throw interactive projector series - the EB475Wi and EB485Wi. The new models have totally refined the ultra short throw with a new shorter distance, higher brightness, more flexible and user friendly mounting, plus the most innovative interactivity features available. Below is a summary of the key features:

- With the added benefit of 3LCD Technology, presentations will feature rich, vibrant colours that bring content to life. Plus with the choice of either the 2600 or 3100 ANSI lumens of brightness there is no need to dim the lights or draw the curtains. The distance between the projector and the board is 25% shorter than previous Epson model, which allows the projector to fill an 80-inch screen from just a 47cm distance.
- The new EB-475Wi or EB-485Wi is "plug and play" meaning there is no need to install any additional driver software, saving time and hassle trying to find the driver CD.
- Combined with the auto-calibration feature, meaning with the click of a button, teachers can have their interactive workspace accurate and responsive without going through the original calibration process.
- Using the instant annotation tool and inbuilt software, you can use the interactive projector to write notes or annotate over an image from a source other than a PC such as a Document Camera without the need of a laptop.
- You can even revolutionise the way you want interact with your class or audience by utilising the Multi User capability. Each EB-475Wi or EB-485Wi ships with two interactive pens, both of which can be used simultaneously.
- These projectors can also be table mounted and turn the horizontal projection image into an interactive learning space, expanding the possibilities for collaborative lessons.
- You can integrate Ipads or other iOS devices with the EB-475Wi or EB485Wi by downloading and installing application "Iprojection" for the free from apple store, so that the images and files stored on the iOS devices can be wirelessly projected onto the board.
- Another benefit of the EB-475Wi and EB-485Wi is the low cost of ownership. They feature a lamp boasting an estimated life of up to 4,000 hours and a cost of the replacement lamp is only $79RRP. This series of projectors also benefit from a high efficiency electrostatic filter with an estimated maintenance cycle of up to 5,000 hours.

For more information on the new revolutionary EPSON EB475Wi or EB485Wi interactive projectors, please contact a D.I.B Solutions Consultant on (03) 9457 4800.

HINTS & TIPS

HOW TO CHOOSE THE RIGHT INTERACTIVE PROJECTOR

Buying interactive technology can be a daunting task. Many schools have started to implement interactive projectors as opposed to the traditional projector and interactive whiteboard system due to large cost savings. However, choosing the right interactive projector is crucial to the success of the technology in the classroom.

After some research, we have six tests anyone can use to evaluate the quality and performance of proposed interactive projectors:

TEST 1: Write some text, then turn and point the pen away from the board (as if talking to the class or audience). Then turn back to the board and start writing in a different location. Has the projector added any lines which you didn't draw?

With some interactive technologies, the pen has to be pointing at the board at all times or the projector loses the pen's position. When the pen touches to board again, a random straight line is sometimes drawn to the point where the pen is newly positioned (you may have to run this test a few times to be sure).

TEST 2: Set the pen to a pen-like thickness suitable for handwriting, and draw a straight horizontal and vertical line. Is the displayed line as straight as you drew it?

With the technology used in some projectors, this is an impossible task. It also makes it very difficult to read handwritten words in the workspace, both for you, and your class or audience.

TEST 3: Hold the pen naturally, as you would when writing (i.e. not 100% perpendicular to the board and hold it to the board) in the natural position, is the cursor where the tip of the pen is? Does this change at different areas of the board? Does this inaccuracy increase as you write?

In some interactive projectors, a camera is placed on top of the pen so that the projector can "see" where the pen is. With this technology however, the projector "sees" the point at which this camera is pointing, not where the tip of the pen is, causing issues of inaccuracy.

TEST 4: Write some text as you would in a classroom situation. Don't wait for the technology to catch up, write at your normal pace. Is your writing legible? Would your class or audience be able to read what you have written?

The technology used in some interactive projectors is not fast enough to keep up with the speed at which people handwrite. This makes it difficult to know what you have written whilst you're writing. In addition, the projector may not follow exactly where you have written leaving your writing illegible for your audience.

TEST 5: Ask to see a colourful image that you are familiar with, such as a colour grid, and observe the colour vibrancy and accuracy of the projected image. Are the projected colours as vibrant as you would expect? Are they true to the original image?

Colour vibrancy and accuracy is especially important in classroom environments, Colour creates interest, excitement, and makes watching multimedia content captivating!

TEST 6: Ask to see the projected image with the interactive functionality turned both off and on. Is there a perceivable difference in the brightness of the image?

The technology used in some interactive projectors affects the brightness of the projected image. The specification used by manufacturers in their brochures is often the interactivity "off" brightness level. Is the projector bright enough for your needs when the interactivity is turned on?

For more information on how DIB Australia can assist you with choosing the right interactive projector, please contact a D.I.B Solutions Consultant on (03) 9457 4800.

EPSON EB485WI DEMONSTRATION SESSION

D.I.B. Australia is pleased to invite schools to watch a non-obligation demonstration of the latest in interactive technology EPSON EB485Wi interactive projectors. The session will take around 10 to 15 minutes and will be conducted by one of our experienced solution consultants. If you are interested to book the demonstration to experience the equipment by yourself, please contact us on (03) 9457 4800, or email to lgan@dibaustralia.com.au for more information.

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