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D.I.B AUSTRALIA Audio Visual Systems NEWSLETTER

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Overnewton College - Interactive Projector

With a population growth in the northwest of Melbourne in the late 80's, there was a community need for a quality school in the area. As a direct result, in 1987, Overnewton Anglican Community College opened its Keilor Campus and then nine years later, a second campus at Taylors Lakes.

The Keilor Campus caters for students from Prep - Year 8 and Years 10 - 12; with Year 9 students attending the Taylors Lakes Campus. Taylors Lakes caters for Prep - Year 9 students. All students are encouraged to achieve their best through a broad range of curricular and co-curricular subjects with sound values based on Christian faith.

A new Junior School at Keilor Campus has just been completed to accommodate students from Prep - Year 4. This new purpose built building consists of 20 classrooms, a staffroom, library and a number of smaller learning spaces and offices. Information Technology was an important aspect for the school with a particular focus being on the integration of the latest technology for use by its junior students. With this in mind, every classroom has been fitted out by DIB Australia to best meet the requirements of both students and teachers.

To achieve the desired result, DIB Australia met with the school and their architect, McIldowie Partners. Through a number of discussions, we were able to advise the placement of all of their audio visual equipment right down to the location of connection points and power outlets. "**Working this closely with the school and architect from the early stages of the project allowed for a very tidy and professional looking finish. The projector and speakers were even able to be fitted into the joinery of the wall units to be unobtrusive."**

Above: The New ESPSON EB485Wi Interactive Projector installed in the new junior school of Overnewton College

As the school wanted the latest in audio visual and interactive technology, they chose to use the new Epson EB-485Wi widescreen interactive projector with Epson's new 30W speakers in their 20 new classrooms. To make their setup as easy as possible for users, a Joey 6 control panel was installed which also eliminates the need for easily lost remote controls. Control panels such as this typically have projector on/off buttons, source selection and volume control. Overnewton College's installation was setup so that they could connect an iPod or MP3 player and play through the Epson speakers without the need to have the projector on at the same time. This is an excellent solution for those wishing to conserve energy and make the most of their projector's lamp life.

Overnewton Anglican Community College is very proud of their new state of the art building. As a result of DIB Australia's early involvement in this project, the school has been able to achieve the outcome they had planned for. Students can be engaged and inspired in a learning space designed to meet their needs.

For more information on EPSON EB485Wi interactive projector please contact a D.I.B Solution Consultant on (03) 9457 4800.

Above: The Control Panel & Wall Plates installed next to the interactive projector

Concord School - RM Vertable & Interactive Projector

Concord School is a Prep-12 specialist school with the main campus located in Bundoora and Junior (Prep-2) campus in Watsonia. Students with additional learning needs are well catered for in this caring and supportive environment. They are encouraged to be the best they can be and are acknowledged for their individual achievements. Concord School currently has 370 students enrolled between the two campuses and is highly regarded for its educational programs, facilities and skilled staff. The school integrates learning technologies into their curriculum to assist in achieving excellence in education.

Above: The RM Vertable that is used in vertical position as an interactive whiteboard.

DIB Australia has helped in providing technological equipment suitable for use in Concord School's learning environment for a number of years now. The most recent of these being the new RM VerTable with installed interactive projector. This innovative design combines interactive technology with the flexibility of furniture. **"DIB Australia installed Epson's new EB-455Wi interactive projector to the VerTable which creates two modes of use. Teachers can lock the board into the vertical position thus creating an interactive whiteboard which can be used for whole class learning or by changing it into table top mode, students can gather in smaller groups to participate around the now interactive table."**

This new technology with its great flexibility is perfect for Concord School. The board can be adjusted to various heights both in vertical and table modes making it user friendly for prep students through to adults. Being on a stand means that the VerTable can easily be wheeled around the room providing increased flexibility in the teaching environment.

The projected image size is 56" (approximately 820mm x 1120mm) with a whiteboard writable board area of 900mm x 1800mm. The RM VerTable comes complete with a laptop shelf. Concord School's setup was installed with VGA and audio connections. The sturdy design of the VerTable is sure to meet the demands of the classroom environment.

Concord School also received the award winning RM Easiteach Next Generation software for use with their VerTable. Teachers can create and deliver engaging lessons by using this powerful, yet easy to use software. With the combination of great software and a very flexible interactive device, engaging students has never been so easy!

For more information on RM Vertable please contact a D.I.B Solution Consultant on (03) 9457 4800.

Above: The RM Vertable that is used in horizontal position as an interactive table.

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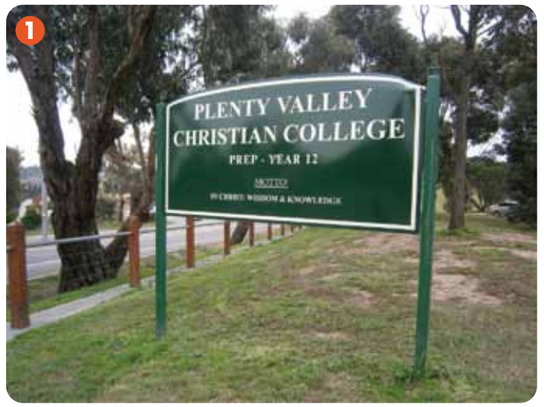

Plenty Valley Christian College- Multipurpose Hall & PA Systems

Plenty Valley Christian College (PVCC) is an independent, co-educational, Prep-12 college located in an attractive semi-rural area in Doreen. Established in 1981, the school prides itself on providing a quality education framed by Christian beliefs. The school has superb facilities for the students and this includes the recently completed Multi Purpose Hall.

When Ferntree Gully architects Peter G Lyall & Associates approached DIB Australia seeking ideas for PVCC, we were confident that we could provide an exciting new Audio Visual (AV) design to suit the school's needs. The process began during the early stages prior to the building works commencing. This is the ideal time for schools to be planning what their intended uses of the space are and what type of technology is wanted. DIB Australia's Sam Garden attended meetings with the school's Business Manager, Bernie Simmonds, and the architect, Peter Lyall. During these discussions, the school's AV needs were extensively discussed with particular focus on the lighting of the space and how they would achieve the best audio results.

With DIB Australia's input during the initial phase, PVCC were able to ensure that their structure was suitably designed for their intended AV equipment. This meant the recommended removal of skylights from the original design. In taking up this suggestion, the school was able to make use of high powered projectors rather than other high priced technology which would have been more prohibiting.

"As the school's new building was a multi purpose space, it was important that the projector be protected and out of sight as best as could be. Our solution was to have the projector built into the rear wall of the Multi Purpose Hall so that it didn't protrude out at all, thus creating a very secure and sleek design." An Epson high power Z-series projector was utilised due to its impressive 7000 ANSI lumen output. A combination of high powered projector and good control of natural and ambient light provides the best image in a space of this nature. It was important that the projector be accessible for maintenance purposes, so a manhole was built above the school's lobby with a drop down ladder.

The school chose a 150" Grandview motorised projector screen with AV controls in a side store room. From here, the projector and motorised screen could be simultaneously turned on via a control panel. This control panel also has source selection and speaker volume control making it very user friendly; which is important in a space with multiple users. An iPod input was installed to provide connectivity for music when required.

The AV system in PVCC's Multi Purpose Hall is mainly used for school assemblies. With this in mind, good quality sound was important. Due to the difficult acoustic environment of the space, we utilised sound sphere speaker technology to deliver even audio throughout the space. This audio technology is suitable for use in large open environments and is used to minimise sound echo and reflections resulting in clearer audibility. A wireless microphone is also used to help in the delivery of the school's assemblies.

The school's new building design looks inviting and gives students and teachers a perfect space to use for their various needs, with appropriate large venue audio visual equipment being as unobtrusive as possible.

For more information on multipurpose hall AV systems design and setup please contact a D.I.B Solution Consultant on (03) 9457 4800.

1: The school sign of Plenty Valley Christian College School
2&3: 150'' Grandview motorised projector screen is installed in the centre of the gym

4&5: EB-Z9050W 7000 ANSI Lumens WXGA theatre projector built in the rear wall
6: Jed T460 Four Button Control LCD Wall Control Panel in the side store room

New DIB Product Launch iJunior Interactive Easel

iJunior is an innovative new interactive product designed especially for junior classrooms. Developed by DIB Australia and one of its good clients, this exciting new addition to the educational and interactive technology market is sure to get the thumbs up from both teachers and students alike.

iJunior is a special easel with a multi-touch screen on one side and a magnetic whiteboard on the other. Both sides can be used by groups simultaneously. Easels are commonplace in junior classrooms due to their size and freestanding, moveable nature. The iJunior meets the needs of teachers in this area and is fun for young children to use too because it is at their height.

The iJunior's full high-definition 55" LCD screen does not have a glass overlay which means there is very little parallax. High parallax screens make it difficult to judge where you are required to touch on the screen and thus reduce the ease of use and accuracy. With no drivers required, anyone can simply plug and play with their laptop. iJunior comes with VGA, audio and HDMI inputs as standard, however, other inputs can be added if required.

As this product has been designed for use in junior classrooms, all edges are rounded for safety and the large, sturdy caster wheels can be locked to avoid accidental movement during use. Shelves on both ends conveniently collapse down when not required. Below the multi-touch screen and whiteboard are adjustable shelves and a large drawer. A large clip above the whiteboard can be used for holding paper or 'big books' in place. iJunior comes in a range of colours to brighten up your learning environment.

DIB Australia provides onsite training to ensure that the main users have a successful uptake of their iJunior interactive easel. Software will be provided for users.

For more information on iJunior Interactive Easel please contact a D.I.B Solution Consultant on (03) 9457 4800.

HINTS & TIPS

VGA vs HDMI

VGA connection has been the most common form of connecting a computer system to a display device; such as a projector or monitor (TV Panel) for quite some time now.

For a number of years there has been a debate about "Whether to install HDMI or Display Port**?**" Or "What should be done about the future of AV connections in my classroom**?**"

DIB Australia has been a strong advocate of waiting to see where the tide turns in terms of the most common form of 'digital' connection to take the place of the long trusted analogue (VGA) connection. The truth is the tide is turning on this and laptops are starting to be produced without a VGA connector at all.

What this does is force us to confront that VGA will not be with us forever and indeed may even be out the door sooner than we think.

The challenge facing many educational institutions with their existing classroom projector systems (including now the interactive projector systems) is that this transition is likely to last some time as they phase out their old computer hardware and bring in the new.

With this transition upon us the more important question is not whether we wait for the 'right' digital connection and then start to install, but rather, "What digital connection can I install now that will most likely work with future formats and what we have now**?**"

The answer, in our opinion, is HDMI. By installing HDMI now into your learning spaces (along with VGA) you are setting them up ready for those laptops that come along and don't feature any VGA connection. If you are reading this article at the date it is published and if you are like many schools and colleges and expect to get 5-7 years from your Audio Visual (AV) systems then within that time you will almost definitely make a complete transition from VGA to a digital connector – so the key is start now.

"We are suggesting HDMI simply because it appears to be the most prolific connector on laptops at this point and it is also more common as an input connection on both interactive projectors, normal projectors and the LCD touch screen and other similar products that can be found."

There are still many issues to address when installing digital signals, such as the length of your cable path, how to control switching, what if you need multiple inputs, how to ensure you don't have any High-bandwidth Digital Content Protection (HDCP) or Extended Display Identification Data (EDID) issues etc.. But the key message here is, Make a start and get digital display connections into your learning spaces now".

Latest in Hall, Library & Kitchen AV Technologies Demonstration Session

D.I.B. Australia is pleased to invite you to attend an information session on some of the latest in hall's, library's & kitchen's AV technologies demonstration. In a short 18 minutes session, you will have the opportunity to explore what are some of the potential benefits that could be brought by the technologies listed below:

- The LCD Ultra Thin Bazzel Video Wall
- The Motorised Rear Projection Screen
- The Large Venue High Brightness Projector
- The Edge Blending Projection Technologies
- The Lectern with wireless microphones
- The Library Digital Signage Systems
- The Hospitality HD & SD Camera Systems

Call us today on (03) 9999 5993 or email lgan@dibaustralia.com.au to arrange a time if you are interested.

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