

Open Communications References
Envi Con & Plant Engineering GmbH, Nuremberg
Reduced travel costs thanks to video conference



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SIEMENS

Envi Con & Plant Engineering GmbH, founded around eight years ago and with over 200 engineers and technicians, has made a name for itself, above all, as an all-round planner in the field of power plants and thermal waste disposal. Sales figures are around 50 million euros a year.

Envi Con decided to install a video conference solution in order to achieve more flexible project meetings and simultaneously reduce the cost of business trips. At the same time, the new tool should enable staff to work together on construction plans.

Dirk Rudolph
Head of the Information Technology
Department at Envi Con & Plant Engineering
GmbH:

“Not only have we become considerably more flexible with this new solution, we also save far more time and costs than was previously possible.”

Envi Con
Envi Con &
Plant Engineering GmbH

www.envi-con.de

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| Task | Solution | Benefits |
|--|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Fewer business trips▪ Creates greater flexibility for planning meetings▪ Staff can work together virtually on construction plans▪ Fast and efficient communication▪ Solution is based on generally available standards▪ Integration in the technical infrastructure | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Installation of a VHD600 OpenScape video conference system with two 50" monitors in Nuremberg▪ Operation via the ISDN network▪ Installation of a VHD400 video conference system with 42" monitor in each of the sites in Hamm, Sofia and Dubai▪ Option of transferring data via the existing IP network | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Clear cost reductions as less traveling necessary▪ More flexible work routines thanks to virtual teamwork▪ Ad-hoc meetings possible▪ Faster decision-making in the event of problems▪ Saves time▪ ROI of just 6 months |

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Task

Keeping traveling to a minimum

Envi Con & Plant Engineering GmbH, founded around eight years ago and with over 200 engineers and technicians, has made a name for itself, above all, as a an all-round planner in the field of power plants and thermal waste disposal. Sales figures are around 50 million euros a year.

As an independent all-round planner, Envi Con amasses a great many pieces of information, which must be produced, checked and forwarded. Its work also includes the elaboration of construction plans and fast problem-solving. This necessarily entailed a lot of traveling on the part of employees.

In order to improve the situation and reduce the number of business trips – not least for financial reasons – Envi Con decided to install a video conference solution. Besides saving time and money, the new solution should also provide greater flexibility for planning meetings, and enable staff to work together on design plans without all technicians and engineers having to gather in one place.

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Solution

OpenScape Video VHD600

At the company headquarters in Nuremberg, a VHD600 video conference system with two 50" monitors and a networker for operation via the ISDN network (4 BRI/1PRI) is to be installed. This will be further enhanced by a visualizer for displaying and transferring technical details, such as construction plans, for example. A VHD400 video conference system with 42" monitor will be installed at each of sites in Hamm, Sofia and, in the future, Dubai.

Initially, video conferences will be conducted via a standard ISDN line with a maximum of 512 kbit/s. Later on, if the bandwidth is sufficient, the video conference systems will be able to communicate via the internet on an IP basis, as the necessary technology is already in place. The quality and performance of the network, including WAN connections, will be the responsibility of Envi Con.

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Benefits

Reducing travel costs

The many advantages offered by the new video conference system for Envi Con become apparent just a few months after the system launch. It was possible, for example, to considerably reduce the number of business trips, which previously amounted to several hundred a year, as now a team does not have to get itself to the construction site every time there is a problem. This also results in cost savings as – depending on the location and nature of the journey – up to 3000 euros had to be budgeted for travel costs alone. This is why the ROI is estimated at just 6 months.

Because the conference system makes it possible to transfer plans and work on them together, today difficulties can be resolved much faster and more effectively than ever before. Not only this: ad-hoc meetings are possible, which formerly would have entailed a great deal of time and expense. This in turn has greatly improved employees' flexibility.

Dirk Rudolph, Head of the Information Technology Dept. at Envi Con & Plant Engineering GmbH, has this to say: "Not only have we become considerably more flexible with this new solution, we also save far more time and costs than was previously possible."