



Vidyo®

Personal Telepresence

APPLICATION BRIEF

VidyoConferencing™ and Education

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VidyoConferencing™ and Education

Increasing Timeliness, Ease, and Frequency of Learning Opportunities

From print-based instruction, to radio and television classes, to the use of on-line resources and web-based instruction, distance learning has come a long way. Video conferencing is the latest and most significant milestone along this path of innovations. Unlike its predecessors, video conferencing offers educators and students, for the first time, the uniquely significant ability to achieve bi-directional interaction; that is, face-to-face and voice-to-voice communication from teacher to student and students to teacher. Without having to incur time or costly travel expenses to provide or receive this opportunity, students and teachers can convene more easily than ever before.

For students, there is now a vastly increased choice of classes that has until recently been limited because of logistical inconvenience, access to skilled instructors, and travel time. For educators, video conferencing lends itself to a team approach to teaching and enhances the ability of teachers to meet and collaborate. Instructional video conferencing has been shown to decrease the amount of student absenteeism from class and allow increased and more personal monitoring of student attendance, progress, and success.

Reaching Beyond Traditional Educational Applications

On a larger scale, video conferencing is potentially the solution to help supply the sought after teachers and trainers needed to educate future designers and developers of our global society's infrastructure – from agriculture and schools to clinics, roads and transportation. For many years, talented students have traveled from less-developed to more-developed countries to fulfill their educational aspirations. With video conferencing, those students need only to have computer access to take advantage of many excellent educational opportunities without travelling outside of their country.

For adult learners in the U.S. and other western countries, many professions require the completion of courses to achieve professional certifications or fulfill training programs in various job sectors. Prior to video conferencing, such programs required students to travel to a centralized location. This was difficult for older-than-average and other non-traditional students in urban and especially in rural communities. Additionally, financial and time pressures, commitments to family and jobs, and responsibilities to the operation of the family farm or business, made it challenging at best to take these classes.

Video conferencing is able to serve many who live great distances from university campuses and training centers. By utilizing video conferencing, educators are successfully facilitating connections between students and educational resources, spanning distances and time zones.

VidyoConferencing: Access to Everyone ... Anywhere

Video conferencing is now opening up opportunities for multitudes of people to whom education was previously “out of reach” because of time, geography and other logistical challenges. However, here’s the rub: High-quality, low-maintenance video conferencing systems are still “out of reach” to most educational centers, learning enterprises and school communities! Why? Because of the high costs of purchasing and maintaining the type of equipment needed for these applications. That is, UNTIL NOW.

With *VidyoConferencing*, learning establishments and school communities don’t need specialized classrooms or cost-prohibitive dedicated networks and equipment. VidyoConferencing provides the highest quality transmission and reception of HD video over shared IP networks (including the Internet). Why is HD so important? Because HD delivers a natural, life-like experience that is important for capturing and maintaining a participant’s attention and conveying subtle communication cues -- key to a favorable learning environment.

Scheduling and participation in VidyoConferencing classes is elementary! Instructors and students alike can participate in a Vidyo class via a simple-to-use Internet portal with one-click calling. Ease of access means that a teacher can simply walk into a regular classroom and instantly have interactive instruction and collaboration tools at her disposal to reach students outside of the physical campus.

Until now, the use of and participation in video classes has had some frustrating limitations. Often students are only able to *receive* a video lecture that is “streamed out” over the Internet. They are able to see and hear the lecture, but not able to ask questions or provide feedback to the instructor. With VidyoConferencing, the teacher is able to, not only address immediate questions and feedback from students, but also literally SEES THEIR REACTIONS...even if it’s a 50-person video class! VidyoConferencing allows up to 100 people to participate in a video class because VidyoTechnology is extremely accommodating. And because learning institutions don’t have to purchase and maintain extremely costly networks and equipment to get the best quality video and audio communication, Vidyo is *financially* accommodating, as well.

Vidyo is the first company to license technology and deliver products built upon an entirely new video conferencing architecture that utilizes a recently approved “scalable” video compression standard which delivers unparalleled video quality over unreliable networks including the Internet. Because of this unique ability – allowing disparate people to participate in video classes from many locations, regardless of where they are – learning centers no longer need to be concerned about the equipment, management, logistics and costs of video conferencing. The Internet is key to access, worldwide, to the very best instruction ... and VidyoConferencing is the only technology that holds the key to easily achieving the much needed benefits of this communications breakthrough in education.