

Application Story



Image Design Technology

TECHNOLOGY DISTRIBUTORS

March 2006

InFocus®

Terra Sancta Secondary College Enhances Learning and Teaching Environment

Summary

Organisation:

Terra Sancta College

Reseller:

Kirby Productions

Industry:

Secondary College

Students:

1300

Challenge:

Improve teaching and learning by using affordable state-of-the-art AV solution

Solution:

- 14 x Infocus X3 projectors for classrooms
- 2 x Infocus LP850 projectors for performance areas
- Kensington lock system security
- Bose sound system

Key Benefits:

- Competitive advantage for college
 - Enhanced learning environment for students
 - Flexible, professional and effective set up for teachers
-

Terra Sancta College is a Catholic School community dedicated to the education and care of young people. There are two campuses, Schofields (Year 7-10) and Nirimba (Year 11-12) with a total of 1300 students. The school's mission is to promote the spiritual, intellectual, physical, emotional and social development of each student. As well as to develop a broad curriculum to achieve these goals through participation, consultation and collaboration at all levels.

The physical teaching and learning environment is a critical element in achieving these goals and in 2005, it was identified that various aspects of the environment needed to be enhanced; namely the access to and use of quality audio visual (AV) technology.

To date the classroom-based technology consisted of cumbersome, archaic overhead projectors set on the teachers' desk. The projectors not only presented a poor image, but teachers were limited by static information, not easily adapted to suit individual teaching needs.

Review and assessment of AV market

In 2005, the college's IT Manager, David Shiel embarked on a review and assessment of what AV technology could help the school not only provide a better learning environment but provide teachers with a cost effective solution that would allow them to operate more efficiently. Ultimately, the objective was to give the school a competitive edge through the use of innovative technology.

The college reviewed a number of options on the market with various resellers and chose to partner with leading event management and AV sales and installation specialists, Kirby Productions. The college selected Kirby Productions due to their technical knowledge and the way they worked with the school to identify the best solution. Kirby Productions not only provided the school with full demonstrations in their offices but also loaned demonstration models to the school for evaluation on-site for three weeks.

“It was very beneficial to be able to go to Kirby Productions’ offices to see realistic demonstrations of what it would be like in the classrooms,” said David Shiel, IT Manager, Terra Sancta College. “Then having the ability to borrow the projectors and set it up in our classrooms was invaluable in our assessment process and it enabled us to involve the whole faculty in the decision making process.”

High performance, easy-to-use and cost effective AV solution

With Kirby Productions, the college chose to adopt an InFocus projector solution due to its superior quality, providing a very smooth image on screen with a significant level of brightness. The projectors present clear images even in sunny classrooms due to InFocus’ latest digital processing technology, DLP™.

In October 2005, Kirby Productions installed 14 classroom based X3 projectors and two LP850 projectors for the performance halls at the college’s two campuses, Schofields and Nirimba. The InFocus X3 projectors provide the school with an easy to set up, use and maintain projection solution, which is focussed on value-for-money and dependability. The projectors are a cost effective solution with long 4000 hour lamp life and as well as providing a clear crisp image with a powerful zoom lens and 1700 max ANSI lumens of brightness.

The two professional-grade installation LP850 projectors installed in the halls provide power and solid performance, coupled with ease-of-use features like user-replaceable lenses and colour-coded connections. The projectors are high performance with four optional lenses and 4500 lumens, as well as being more flexible with power zoom, focus, and lens shift.

The projectors are coupled with a pristine Bose sound system including DVD/VHS and it is set up with easy ‘big button’ controls, including a rotary volume control, to suit the non-tech savvy users.

The new AV system is very secure with a Kensington lock system and lockable racks, all keyed the same, so teachers only need one room and equipment key no matter which room they are teaching in. As the two Infocus LP850 projectors are installed in the schools halls, which are used for sports and performances, Kirby Productions designed a custom-built cage to not only provide security and safety for the equipment, but also for ease-of-maintenance for cleaning and lamp changing.

Enhanced teaching and learning environment

“The installation of the new AV system coincided with the completion of our new purpose-built classrooms and the feedback from teachers and students has been extremely positive,” said Chris MacDermott, Principal, Terra Sancta College. “Not only have our staff members been given much greater flexibility in planning and running classes, but our students are obviously much more engaged in learning.”

Teachers now have unparalleled access to information through the Catholic Education Office’s network direct to the classroom. It provides for a much more flexible and tailored approach to meeting the needs of the individual students.

The path for the future for the college is unbounded, with infinite access to information and resources, as well as the ability to share information much more efficiently, this new AV system has provided Terra Sancta College an affordable and effective set up for teachers and students and a strong competitive advantage.