

A Crucial Part of Control Infrastructure



Elegant AV – users can easily switch between programmed presets and video sources shown on the Large Screen Display at one of Statoil's Central Control Rooms (photo: GCCD)

AV has evolved from a specialty area to a business-critical application, as presentation and collaboration technology has increasingly become part of how we communicate. This trend demands reliable, sustainable, and repeatable AV solutions. Crestron control systems have been used in an extensive number of installations during the years that we at Video Film Int AS have been providing Crestron to the Norwegian market through a network of dealers.

BY KJETIL PETERSEN

Starting back in 2009, the oil and gas industry was the first in Norway as well as continuing as a front-runner in applying Crestron DigitalMedia® solutions. DigitalMedia is a product line engineered to manage and distribute digital AV and control signals. DigitalMedia was quite disruptive in 2009. The technology has developed quickly and today Crestron DigitalMedia® can handle end-to-end 4K distribution.

Even though DigitalMedia is widely used among the largest oil and gas companies in Norway already, a reliable 4K distribution opens for better solutions for seismic oil exploration and other detail oriented work. In the oil and gas industry the range of applications for Crestron products is remarkable. The cases below showcase the extent of Creston's scope.

Shell – Telemedicine by Viju Norway

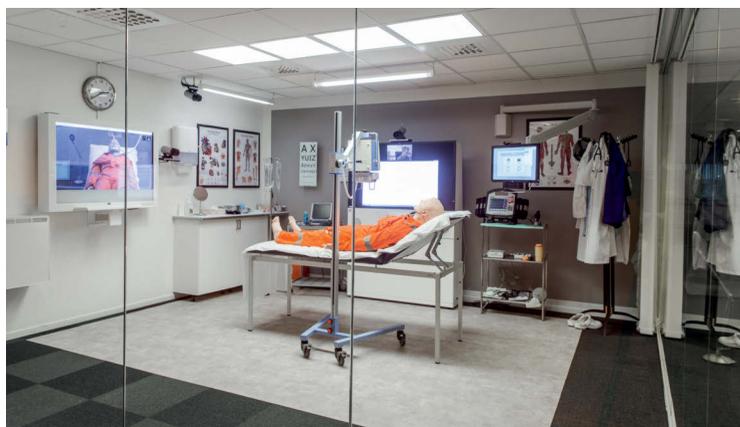
Telemedicine solutions are designed to reduce costs, scale

expertise, enhance productivity and help deliver better patient care. The telemedicine solution our dealer Viju made for Shell in offshore Benin is in an excellent example of an installation where AV equipment enhances other technologies.

The remote location called for new ways of medical care. Using high-definition video communications, medical devices and collaboration tools, telemedicine provides convenient access to efficient patient care across distance. A Crestron Control system was installed to control the Cisco Video Conference, and the medical equipment is accessed from a Crestron touch panel. With a push of a button, on-site health professionals can access medical expert consultations from around the world.

Mariner – Central Control Room by GCCD

Mariner's Central Control Room, installed by our dealer GCCD, is a 24/7 operation. Consequently, the



Viju's demo hospital in Stavanger, showcasing telemedicine installations like the one at Shell's Benin site (photo: Viju)

solution needs to be fully operational at all times. A powerful Crestron Control System operated from a Crestron Touch Panel controls six projectors and a RGB Spectrum Mediawall.

From the touch panel, the operator can check the status of the equipment and easily switch between programmed presets and video sources shown on the Mediawall. Platforms with similar installations by GCCD include Troll A, Gudrun, Åsgard B, Visund, Valemon, Heidrun, Aasta Hansteen, Gina Krog and Ormen Lange.

Lundin Norway – In Control from Lysaker by 3C Technology

Lundin Norway has recently moved into a completely renovated building – which houses the whole company under the same roof – located at Lysaker, just outside of Oslo. This renovation provided a clean slate to make a cutting-edge AV-solution specifically designed to meet the needs of Lundin Norway.

An important aspect of the solution was that Lundin Norway specified that it had to be user friendly. Our dealer, 3C Technology, therefore



The medical equipment at Shell's offshore Benin site is accessed from a Crestron touch panel (photo: Viju)

designed a solution with a high focus on functionality and user friendliness, even in the most complex rooms. Employees or visitor at Lundin Norway will always be able to go into any room and easily operate the room's function from a touch panel. Even though the rooms and functionalities are different in different types of rooms, the user interfaces of the touch panels are of a cohesive design. In every room, the user will never have more than three choices at start up. This makes for a uniform, simple and recognisable user experience.

Lundin Norway has AV equipment all around the building. AV is no longer restricted to auditoriums and meeting rooms – it is becoming a crucial part of the infrastructure. In Scandinavia we are fast at adopting new technologies both in IT and in AV and there is a fair share of good technology available today. The potential lies within connecting them together. We have noted a trend of merging technologies, and both AV and IT become stronger where they work together

and enhance each other. Seeing the installation as one solution is the key to succeeding. A solution that is reliable, sustainable and repeatable – and one that meets the needs of the users. “This installation is cutting-edge when it comes to the extent of using network technology for sound and picture, few have taken it this far,” says the co-owner of 3C Technology, Pål Sigvaldsen. All units are controlled over network and the network is used for all bidirectional communication between the devices.

Fusion Enterprise Management

To enable the network-based infrastructure to realise its potential, Crestron Fusion RoomView® enterprise management software was installed at Lundin Norway. Crestron Fusion is used for room booking via outlook, offsite support, automatic operational reports to the service provider, asset management and reports. Standing in the hallway you can see the booking panels go red when a room is occupied, and from any of the panels or your outlook you can find and book an available room. All rooms are equipped with movement sensors that prepare the room for use when it senses movement, and after one hour of inactivity shuts it down. This makes sense from an environment perspective.

If Lundin Norway is considering buying new equipment later, the software allows them to generate reports for how much each room



Lundin Norway meeting room, with Crestron Fusion room booking – green “available” status panel goes red when room is in use (photos: 3C Technology)

or the room's equipment was used over a period to better assess their needs. And if they wish to add functionality – such as auto start-up of rooms or auto freeing of unused rooms – the installation already supports this and other functionalities such as auto service alerts and scheduled service alerts. Moreover, this adjustable solution is scalable.

Ensuring Productivity

Integrators are often judged based on providing the lowest cost of the solution at installation, without considering the lifetime cost. The new type of customers are judging the integrators based on their ability to deliver a solution that is robust, reliable and intelligent, even if the initial investment is higher. Companies don't spend money on IT or AV just because they can; they do it to keep their people and facilities productive. If your system is cheaper, but it takes 5 minutes longer to start a meeting each time, the benefits are quickly lost.

For Lundin Norway uptime and reliability is crucial. Lundin Norway is the first oil company that runs its entire operation from

Oslo. For this purpose they require special rooms such as the Operations Room, the Press Room and the Emergency Response Room. Even though uptime in all their rooms is important to Lundin Norway, the uptime of these special rooms is extremely crucial – all hours of the day, every day of the year. All the equipment needed to meet high demands in quality and reliability and the choice therefore ended on a single platform solution with Crestron DigitalMedia. ■



A powerful Crestron Control System operated from a Crestron Touch Panel controls six projectors and a RGB Spectrum Mediawall (photo: GCCD)

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Project and Photo References

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- Ketil Vindenes, Viju – www.vijugroup.com
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