MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC
Changes for the Better

DISPLAYSOLUTIONS
CASESTUDY

ESA ESTEC / European Space Research and Technology Centre, The Netherlands

The European Space Agency (ESA) is Europe's gateway to space. Its mission is to shape the development of Europe's space capability and ensure that investment in space continues to deliver benefits to the citizens of Europe and the world. The European Space Research and Technology Centre (ESTEC), located in Noordwijk in The Netherlands, is the largest of ESA's sites and its main technical base. The activities of ESTEC include developing and managing all types of ESA missions: science, exploration, telecommunications, human spaceflight, satellite navigation and Earth observation. The facility also houses an environmental test centre for spacecraft, together with supporting engineering laboratories specialised in systems engineering, components and materials. ESTEC provides an important role linking ESA with universities, research institutes and national agencies from ESA Member States, and cooperating with space agencies all over the world.

Background

As ESA's centre of technical excellence, ESTEC is frequently the chosen venue for meetings and presentations within the ESA and between its partners. A rear projection videowall forms the centrepiece in one of the meetingrooms of the Erasmus Centre, and is in almost constant use. On the rare occasions when the screen is not being used for meetings or presentations, it relays the current position of the ISS (International Space Station) on a real-time global map.

PROJECT LOCATION
Noordwijk, The Netherlands

CUSTOMER
ESA ESTEC Spacecentre

APPLICATIONS
Meeting / Conference room

PRODUCTS USED
4 x VS-60HS12U
Datapath Controller Vision 450

SYSTEM INTEGRATOR
Heuvelman Sound & Vision
The Netherlands

FURTHER INFORMATION
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Problem & Solution

The busy booking schedule for the meeting room as ESTEC means that the videowall is in use seven days a week for up to 13 hours a day. While the existing rear projection DLP videowall, installed in 2008.

Following a visit to Mitsubishi Electric's European Visitor Centre at Mijdrecht in The Netherlands, the delegation from ESTEC was attentive in Mitsubishi's 60" VS-60HS12 "slim" cubes, which, unlike LCD, would provide true 24/7 operational capability and near-seamless display, but within a greatly reduced footprint. The advanced, air-cooled LED projection engine of the VS-60HS12 meant an end to expensive lamp replacements and servicing costs, while providing full 4K resolution and improved brightness, contrast and colour gamut.

Installation & Results

Systems integrator, Heuvelman Sound and Vision, replaced the existing 4 x 3 50" ESTEC videowall with a 2 x 2 VS-60HS12 "Slimcube" cube videowall from Mitsubishi Electric together with a Datapath VSN450 controller. Installation was greatly simplified by the fact that the Slimcube ships as a single unit. Set up is straightforward, and the system's advanced integral colour and brightness balancing features ensure that the screen remains accurately balanced automatically.

Customer Reaction

The brightness and colour performance have substantially increased and the higher resolution of the Mitsubishi system has resulted in the ability to show images in far greater detail. These enhanced capabilities come with the added benefit of zero maintenance costs for the entire lifetime of the screen, which itself has been vastly extended to some 60,000 hours of operation, or around 12 years of average use at ESTEC.

Slimcubes from Mitsubishi Electric

The VS-60HS12 models used at ESTEC introduced by Mitsubishi Electric provides a cost-effective, compact DLP alternative to tiled LCD in less demanding display applications. DLP technology is capable of displaying continuous static content with no problems of image sticking. The centrepiece of this projection technology is an integrated, ultra-modern DLP® chip. Mitsubishi Electric LED cubes are based around the innovative Smart 7 concept; a pioneering design for LED video wall cubes with a wide, intense colour performance, optimum energy efficiency and a long operational lifespan of over 11 years for some models. As a global market leader in LED cubes, Mitsubishi Electric currently offers the widest selection of models and is able to provide first-rate, well-engineered technology for customised solutions. The company has over 30 years' experience in LED solution development and large screen project management. We have already installed more than 71,000 DLP projector units worldwide.

Request more information