Video and Collaboration System Overview

The new communication solution being trialled at Griffith will allow staff to utilise technology in a way not seen before. An integration of new technologies with the current communication system will put Griffith at the forefront of unified communication amongst Australian universities. These changes will not only positively contribute to the productivity of Griffith employees, but also reinforce the University’s commitment to promote environmentally sustainable practices throughout all campuses.

The trial will enable staff to:

- Access Griffith Communications network (Desk phone, voicemail, chat, web conferencing etc) from anywhere in the world
- Attend scheduled and ad-hoc meetings from anywhere in the world
- Make cost effective phone calls through the mobile phone
- Advertise one single number and access calls to that number from anywhere in the world
- Move calls between devices (Videophone, softphone, mobile)
- Video conference and share documents between multiple users instantaneously
Environmental Sustainability

Griffith prides itself on the environmentally sustainable initiatives that have been put in place in recent years, and this new system will be no exception. The Video and Collaboration tool will look to reduce the carbon footprint of Griffith staff by cutting out the need for inter-campus travel in Griffith vehicles, as well as putting in place power saving timers on the new video phones that will be in use. Videophones are expected to eliminate between 10 and 52 trips per year generating emission reductions of 14.8 and 77.1 tonnes of Carbon dioxide per annum.

Benefits

This system will ensure that videoconferencing and collaboration processes are easy to use, while improving staff productivity by providing an adequate and reliable service. The increase in demand for this system has led to the addition of many user friendly features that will allow a smooth transition once the service is rolled out.

Some of the new features are:

**Cost Effective Calls** – Employees can use their mobile phone to make economical calls within the Griffith network, as well as being able to receive and make calls from software applications such as Skype and Cisco Mobile.

**Single Number Connectivity** – The ability to reach a staff member on their video phone, mobile phone, desktop video phone or landline anywhere in the world through one phone number

**Time Saving** – Users will be able to share documents, make video calls, chat online and check their voicemail all on the one system

**Communication Device Mobility** – Users can move calls between communication devices with relative ease.

**Availability Status** – Enables faster decision making as users are able to view the availability of colleagues based on their desktop, mobile and telephony activity.

**Video Call into Griffith’s video room system** – Staff can attend meetings (both audio and video) from anywhere in the world using their desktop, laptop or mobile phone.

**Receive calls from other organisations** – Ability to make and receive cost effective video calls with partners from other organisations using newly developed communication tools.