



Video Conferencing Using “Meet Me” Servers

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Leischner Institute Educational Skills Workshop
Series-Classroom Technology Strategies
February 27, 2009

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Presentation Agenda

1. Review “Meet Me” Video Conferencing
Technology
2. Product Demonstrations
3. Discussion on potential uses of the
technology
4. Question and Answer

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What is a “meet me” video conferencing server?

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Video Conferencing Services

1. Traditional video conferencing

- Required expensive hardware/software
- Difficult to configure (institutional firewalls)
- Limited number of “point-to-point” connections
- Often requires a technician(s) to operate
- Sessions often require pre-planning and testing

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Video Conferencing Services



1. “Meet-me” video conferencing

- Inexpensive hardware
 - Desktop computer
 - \$50-\$300 desktop camera (e.g., Logitech)
- Software provided by server (not always available, may be in desktop OS).
- Bridge connections, easy to configure (can support traditional “end-points”)

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Video Conferencing Services



1. “Meet-me” video conferencing (con’t)

- Does not require a technician to operate
- Can be ad-hoc conferences with no pre-planning
- Support for a wide range of conference and client types
- Can be synchronous or asynchronous. Current LUHS/SSOM bridge is synchronous-only.

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Video Conferencing Services



1. “Meet-me” client types

- Full Participants: End-users have video, audio and presentation capabilities
- Limited Participants: End-users do not have cameras but may have some ability to see video, use microphone and watch presentation
- “Watchers”: End-users will only see presentations and hear audio

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Video Conferencing Services



1. “Meet-me” video conferencing types

- Full (video, audio, presentation) participants with up to 16 connections
- Mixed participants, with hundreds of limited (non-video) participants

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“Meet-Me” Server Presentation

(<http://meetme.luhs.org>)

Video Conferencing Services

1. System limitations or challenges

- Number of concurrent users limited by available bandwidth
- Full participants require much more bandwidth & effectively limit number of concurrent users to < 16

Video Conferencing Services



1. System limitations or challenges

- Use of limited participants or “watchers”
increases number of concurrent users
- Microphones – don’t enable mics if possible
as they consume bandwidth and can cause
feedback loops (e.g., echoes)

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Video Conferencing Services



1. Some recommendations

- Limit number of users with video cameras.
How many talking heads do you need?
- Use microphones sparingly.
- Encourage users to connect as “watchers”
- Use PPT for presentations

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“Meet-me” Uses



1. “Meet-me” video conferencing types

- Small groups with full (video, audio, presentation) participants with up to 6 connections (4 connections perfect).
- Large “watcher” groups (30-50 users) with a single full presenter

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More Information



Meetme Services @ LUMC

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Question and Answer

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