

Clearly in control

Atkins

GROUNDBREAKING NEW CONTROL ROOMS
INCORPORATING STATE-OF-THE-ART
TECHNOLOGY

systems

Atkins is one of the world's leading providers of professional, technology-based consultancy and support services.

Delivering complete solutions for public and private sector in highways and transportation, Atkins plans, designs and enables capital projects for their clients.



secure

"Harp Visual has proved again that they have the ability to finish another project successfully. I have used Harp Visual services and product on a number of occasions and can certainly recommend them to anybody who is looking to install or upgrade their Control Room.

It is a pleasure working with Harp Visual".

*Brian Wise
WS Atkins*

CASE STUDY

Challenge

Atkins wanted to create a showpiece facility where they could bring their existing and potential customers to show them exactly what they can do. They also wanted to create a focus point for the control team to manage the on going projects that they have on the motorway network. Each project is monitored to the minute to ensure that overnight tasks are completed on-time and the roads are kept in good order whilst giving the minimum disruption to the public.

Strategy

Harp was included as part of the design team to ensure the smooth integration of the display wall into the scheme. Different screens were considered with respect to viewing distance of the operators, information that was to be displayed, physical constraints of the room and available budget. Much of the concern was centred around delivering the information the controllers required so that they could be made more situationally aware and therefore make better informed decisions. Impact of the display wall in terms of air conditioning, power requirements, lighting needs and generated noise also had to be taken into account. Once the solution was agreed the roll out of the control centre was to happen as quickly as possible.

Solution

Due to the distance of the operators from the screen and the height of the room the 67" XGA projection cube was selected as the most apt for the job. Other solutions were considered, such as the 50" cube or LCD displays, but the viewing distance was too great.

Atkins control room design with the supervisors facing outwards and the operators facing inwards would require the screens tilted so that the supervisor's heads would not inhibit the view of the screens by the controllers.



The display wall was to be driven by Harp's DWP 4 video wall processor that joins all the screens as if they were one continuous display surface. The processor makes the video wall operate as if it were a giant PC. Any application that runs on a PC will run on the display wall processor and be shown on the screens. To allow the display wall to be more reactive to situations the Commandant touch panel was included as part of the solution. The Commandant allows screen scenarios to be saved so that different screen layouts can be invoked at a touch of a button. This allows the supervisors to have preset lay-outs embedded in the system so that when an incident occurs the screen can be formatted immediately. Different screen scenarios can be created for different events.

Result

Atkins now have a control centre that delivers up to the minute information and the knowledge base for the controllers and supervisors to make informed decisions. Information flows quickly through the solution so that it is delivered to those that need it. The solution gives the control team a sense of purpose and worth to be working, in such a state, of the art control room.



HARP

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