

Technology-driven Council chooses Bosch Conference Solution



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Industry:

Local Government

End User:

Sutherland Shire Council, Sydney, Australia

Sutherland Shire Council administers an area of 370 sqkms on behalf of more than 215,000 residents and ratepayers. There are 15 councillors in the Sutherland Shire made up of 3 from each of the 5 wards, which are divided for election purposes. Councillors have legal powers and responsibilities, including matters associated with planning and approvals. They must also direct council affairs and distribute resources, determine policy, and make decisions on project priorities. They meet monthly.

Business Objective:

The audio and visual equipment in Sutherland Council's chambers required an upgrade. Councils are now under obligation to record all meetings, so they also required a solution that was easy to use while delivering excellent coverage of all speakers. As voting plays an important role in many meetings, a simple but quick and accurate voting system was essential.

Solution:

A Bosch Conference & PA solution was chosen for its capabilities in providing integrated conference facilities, including microphone management, electronic voting and video display, in one package.

Products installed:

DCN Next Generation System:

- 1 Chairman Concentus Unit
- 21 Delegate Units

Plena Public Address System

CCS800 Ultra Digital Voice Recorder

The DCN Next Generation system comprises one Chairman Concentus Unit for the Mayor and 21 Delegate Units for Councillors. The DCN is interfaced to a distributed Plena Public Address System for the Public Gallery and other meeting rooms.

The design of the complete system was based on the requirements of Local Councils as prescribed by the Department of Local Government, especially with regards to including capabilities for electronic voting and management of voting results.

The automatic queuing of "request-to-speak" Councillors contributed to the effective management of all microphones in a most orderly manner.



Sutherland Shire Council

The built-in Speech Times with a countdown clock display for each speaker meant that it was no longer necessary to use an external timing device.

Digital recording of all proceedings in a meeting are now achieved with the Bosch CCS800 Ultra Digital Voice Recorder in MP3 format. This forms the basis of the minutes. When required, the MP3 recordings can be played back at any time through the built-in loudspeakers of all the microphone units.

Result:

Very clear and intelligible speech from the built-in loudspeakers was maintained for all, including the Public Gallery, without the need for additional loudspeakers within the Chambers and saving some costs.

"We are extremely pleased with the Bosch solution, which has made communication during our meetings both clearer and easier." stated Sutherland's Mayor.

The interfacing to video distribution was designed and implemented by the systems integrator, Ulmano Pty Ltd.

Installed by:

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