Polycom’s newest Content Provider, Charles Sturt University (CSU) Remote Telescope Project, delivered Astronomy to 42 schools in the United Kingdom and USA to celebrate Winter-Summer Solstice in both Northern and Southern Hemispheres on June 21.

The Remote Telescope Project is an initiative of Dr. David McKinnon, Associate Professor, Faculty of Education, Charles Sturt University Bathurst. The project delivers to primary and secondary schools with learning packages developed for the curricula on Earth and Space. The CSU Remote Telescope Project has been running (without videoconferencing) for the past 10 years, and has received a number of educational and excellence awards. As of 20 June, Polycom’s HDX 8000 High Definition was installed.

Associate Professor McKinnon is well known for his research work with schools through his use of the remote telescope and his teaching of HSC Cosmology Course since 1994, which now has graduates in professional astronomy in many parts of the world. Programs will be shortly added to www.vccontentproviders.org and on his website http://black-hole-net.mit.csu.edu.au/telescope/

Charles Sturt University uses POLYCOM HDX HD 1080p technology

Winter/Summer Solstice Event with our newest content provider – CSU Remote Telescope

As the global recession has impacted the majority of the world, educational institutions have not been excluded. The impact has forced schools to re-evaluate and implement technologies to address challenges left by budget shortfalls.

The NBN will bring increased bandwidth across Australia, and with that, increased opportunities to deliver content rich and interactive learning experiences, especially with visual communications technologies. Increased bandwidth also allows opportunities for more global exchanges to prepare students for a global marketplace. Now is the time to trial a Polycom video solution and experience the potential that this could offer your school.

Two week FREE Trial now available ...

How does it work?

Polycom works directly with your school to loan High Definition Polycom HDX equipment. We will also assist in finding complementary schools to collaborate with during this trial, along with a few “virtual excursions” to get you excited. This might include talking to ReefHQ at the Great Barrier Reef, a science experiment, with Questacon, a Music lesson with Manhattan School of Music or a local University.

There are hundreds of established Content Providers in the USA covering all subjects. To search for subjects and content providers, visit this site: www.vccontentproviders.org

For more information, or to book a session with CSU Remote Telescope, please contact:
Dr David McKinnon
Associate Professor in Teacher Education
Charles Sturt University
Panorama Avenue
Bathurst NSW 2795
dmckinnon@csu.edu.au

Special Points of Interest

→ CSU Remote Telescope Project – our Newest Content Provider
→ ANU School of Music Content Provider LAUNCHING October 2010
→ Questacon – bringing Science content to Australian Schools
→ Connect with other schools and content providers with a Polycom trial.

Is there a school you’d like to connect to ... BUT they don’t have a VC system?
Ask us about our “LOAN” program
Questacon strives to promote greater understanding and awareness of science and technology within the community. Questacon have been providing a number of exciting events to schools not only physically, but also through video conferencing. Their remote program is a mixture of Mathematics (Tessellation), Physics and Chemistry (Hot vs cold – Volcano experiment), Climate (Australian Summer vs Northern Winters).

**Polarpalooza**
**November 2009**
A national video conference was held by Questacon to 27 schools on current polar research and implications for climate change. Hosted by a Questacon presenter, a panel of scientists conducted an examination of 2000 year old ice core, live krill and glowing phytoplankton.

**Extreme Weather Hero's event**
**May 2010**
Green Cross Australia and Questacon hosted an extreme weather heroes event to highlight volunteering and to also demonstrate what extreme weather can do to an environment and the effects of climate change. Questcon scientists conducted a live fire experiment too. Three Australian schools and a High School in Galveston Texas, USA participated in the event through Polycom video conferencing. The Galveston students were able to share their experience dealing with the destruction of Hurricane Ike and the Australia students discussed bushfires and also their experience in volunteering. Joining the students were representatives from State Emergency Services and Red Cross.

Find Questacon on the Content Provider Portal: [www.vccontentproviders.org](http://www.vccontentproviders.org)

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**Videoconference is MORE than just communicating ... it's sharing your experiences and ideas with the world!**

Polycom doesn't just manufacture equipment for education, we help find content and schools to collaborate with you after you purchase it!

Polycom Australia launches its SPECIAL EVENTS program (see last page for details)

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**Take a sneak peek at Australian National University, School of Music, coming October 2010 to the Polycom content provider program**

ANU School of Music will be conducting videoconference trials, including one-on-one Workshops, Master Classes and group session as of October, 2010 in anticipation of the launch of their videoconferencing program in 2011.

If your school is participating in the “Big GIG” on 29th October 2010, virtual coaching will become available during the months of September and October through the MEP (Music Education Program).

Contact Kirsty Guster, Development Officer, for more information:
E: Kirsty.Guster@anu.edu.au

Polycom HDX HD 1080p technology
If you have ever listened to a recording of an instrument, you will hear sustained notes, reverberation, base notes, high notes ... and hear it like CD quality.

Normally, videoconferencing is not designed for music, especially live music played by instruments. Features such as Automatic Gain Control (which compensates by boosting or lowering signals) or Automatic Noise Suppression and Noise Fill (white noise which is ‘filtered out’ or comfort noise is ‘filled in’ during silence) and Echo Cancellation are NOT designed for music. For example, a sustained music note (one that lasts for several seconds) and vital for any music lesson or performance, would be cancelled out, destroyed or removed.

Standard Videoconference equipment was designed for the corporate market ... not music – that is until now! With input from Manhattan School of Music, Polycom developed LIVE MUSIC MODE, (a feature “turned-on” and available in all Polycom HDX products) effectively disables Automatic Gain Control, Noise Fill, Noise Suppression and Adaptive Stereo Echo Cancellation allowing for music to be sent exactly as played, and heard ...with reverberations, sustained notes and no stereo feedback.

Polycom’s LIVE MUSIC MODE offers low latency, true accurate sonic representation of acoustic properties of music. 22kHz of stereo, melody, rhythm, and texture* Christine Orto Asst Dean of Distance Learning, Manhattan School of Music.

Manhattan School of Music distance learning program, pioneered by Pinchas Zukerman, the world renowned violinist and conductor, has been running since 1996. The program today connects more than 1,700 students through videoconferencing with educators and performing artists around the world.

Find MSM on the content provider portal: www.vcontentproviders.org

See the Manhattan School of Music case study (scroll through the videos section): www.polycom.com.au/company/customer_success

G.719, a new ITU-T standard, is based on POLYCOM’S SIREN 22 and Ericsson’s advanced audio techniques

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Bandwidth</th>
<th>Bit rate</th>
<th>Delay</th>
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Audio Codecs comparison – Source: Polycom Whitepaper, Music Performance and Instruction over High-Speed IP Networks 2008

Take a visit to the Great Barrier Reef

ReefHQ diver showing live footage of marine life

Wherever you are in the world, videoconferences let your students experience the wonders of the Great Barrier Reef without getting wet!

ReefHQ goes High Definition using POLYCOM HDX 1080p technology

E: info@reefHQ.com.au
www.reefHQ.com.au

ReefHQ videoconferences are filmed within ReefHQ, the world’s largest living coral reef aquarium, situated in Townsville, Australia, centre of the magnificent Great Barrier Reef. They take you into the stunning Coral Reef and exciting Predator exhibits through state of the art videoconferencing technology. You will see turtles, sharks, sword fish and rays amazingly colourful reef fish living coral in its many stunning shapes and colours some of the Great Barrier Reef’s most precious threatened and protected species Your students can talk directly to the diver and scientists who will be linked by microphone within the scuba mask.

ReefHQ Videoconferences have provided teaching to 4000 students in every continent apart from Antarctica and won the 2010 Teachers Choice Award for Best International Provider.
The number one question the Polycom education team get asked is “How do you find out what video conferencing equipment other schools have?”

CAPspace (which stands for Collaboration Around the Planet) is a social networking tool for educational video conferencing. Login to find colleagues and schools interested in collaborative videoconference (H.323 and H.320) projects. Create and advertise your own collaborative video-conference projects to educators around the world. CAPspace also provides registration for collaborative events and projects such as TWICE’s Read Around the Planet.

Education Contacts

ACT • QLD • NT • New Zealand
Lynnette Whitfield
ANZ Vertical Business Manager, Education
Direct: +61 2 9978 8075
Email: Lynnette.Whitfield@polycom.com

NSW
Troy Andrew
Vertical Account Manager
Direct: 02 9978 8021
Email: Troy.Andrew@polycom.com

VIC • SA • TAS
Tiffany Waugh
Vertical Account Manager
Direct: 03 9935 2718
Tiffany.Waugh@polycom.com

WA
Chris Boardman
WA Regional Sales Manager
Direct: 08 9288 1742
Chris.Boardman@polycom.com

Polycom Special Events ANZ – Commences August 2010!

→ Polycom’s first event is LITERARY MONTH – during August! Exclusively for Polycom Education customers, (max three schools per session) and using your equipment, connect with other schools, listen to Authors talk (complete with lesson plans). Details to be announced in July on CAPspace.

→ OCTOBER, 2010 is MUSIC MONTH

→ If you are interested in participating in these events or want further information log in to CAPspace or contact Lynnette Whitfield on +61 2 9978 8075.