SILEX

College ABC, organizes remote sessions for small groups of students (6 to 8) with experts in their industry or teachers, to discuss and explore a specific topic (for example, a pharmaceutical expert explaining to biology students some research procedures).

In these types of discussions, the following challenges (Ch) should be taken into consideration:

Ch 1.   The remote experts might have a different video conferencing solution than the one used by the college (sometimes they only have Skype)
Ch 2.   All the students should be able to collaborate with the expert, ask their questions and share their views as if they were in the same room
Ch 3.   The expert should be able to easily identify any student talking to him, for a better productivity
Ch 4.   If the sessions are long, then the students should be comfortable to keep their attention during the whole session
Ch 5.   The college usually records such important sessions and saves them as tutorials

How the Silex Value proposition helps solve the challenges:

Solution to Challenge 1: An agnostic videoconferencing solution

Silex PTE systems are agnostic. They can run virtually any Windows-based videoconferencing client to enable video calls with virtually any currently available videoconferencing solution in the market such as:
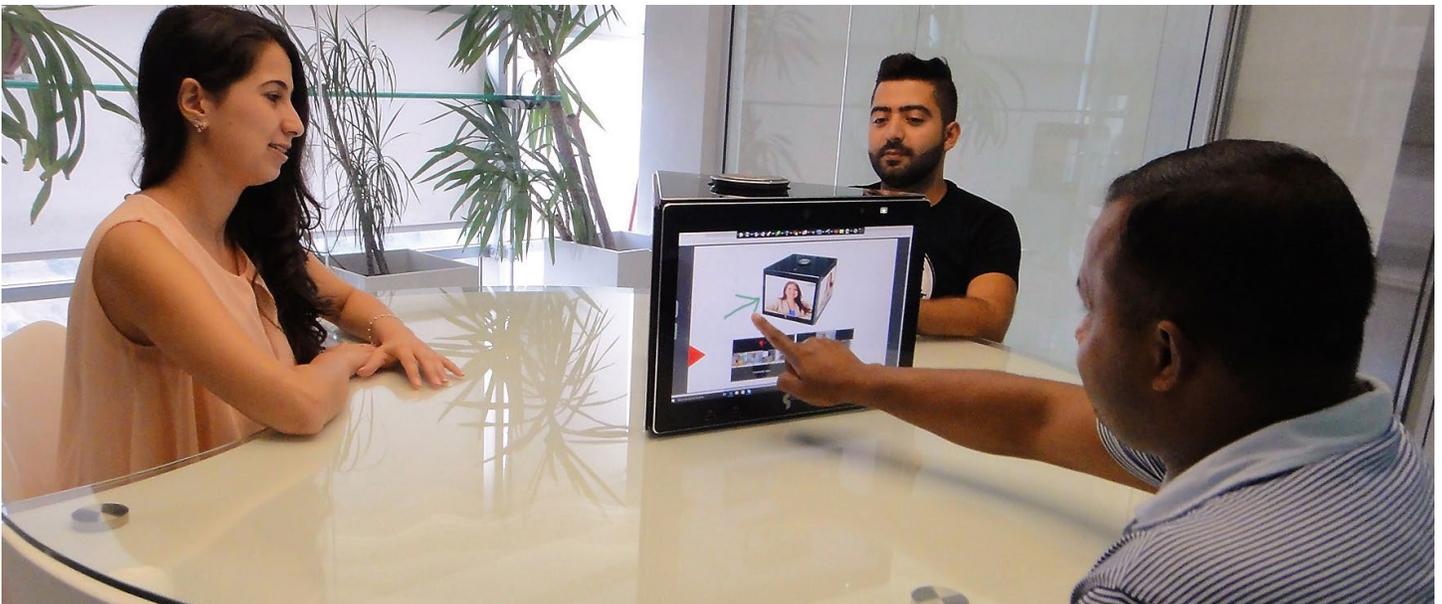
- WebRTC
- Microsoft Skype for Business
- Skype (Microsoft)
- Polycom RPD/Cloud Axis
- Avaya Equinox/Scopia
- Cisco Webex/Jabber/Spark
- StarLeaf Breeze

- Zoom
- Vidyo
- Adobe Connect
- GoogleTalk
- RingCentral
- LifeSize Cloud
- BlueJeans
- StarLeaf
- Pexip based platforms
- etc…

Solution to Challenge 2: Whiteboarding made easily accessible

Silex PTE systems are all-in one Centre of Table devices that are placed in the center of the meeting table. They include a unique multi-sided whiteboard allowing any student sitting on any side of the table to use the touch screen and actively contribute to the discussion, while remaining seated and being captured by the camera facing them, all the time.
In traditional wall-mounted setups, students would need to leave their seat and go to a whiteboard or an interactive whiteboard to share and explain an idea. In such cases they may not be properly captured by the camera and the remote teacher would not see them anymore.

Solution to Challenge 3: A perfect eye contact

The Silex PTE system is placed in the center of the meeting table and students would be sitting around it. Therefore, they would be perfectly framed by the cameras located on each side of the system at eye level: Students all look the same size and have an eye contact with the remote teacher. Thus, the teacher can identify the students and can perfectly see their facial expressions as if they were in the same classroom.

SIDE 1   SIDE 2   SIDE 3   SIDE 4

Solution to Challenge 4: Comfort during long sessions

Since the Silex PTE system is in the middle of the meeting table, all students remain comfortably seated all the time and look at a screen in front of them rather than twisting their neck to look at a wall-mounted screen.
The viewing distance is optimized to offer the students a guaranteed perfect view of the content since all students are seated at an equal distance from the screens comparing to a traditional classroom setup where some students would be close to the wall-mounted screen and others too far.

Solution to Challenge 5: Session recording

Silex PTE devices include a recording system, therefore the whole session can be recorded and stored for other students if needed. The recorded session would include voice, video, content and annotations