



GVAV Case Study

Cardiff University

VETS:

Virtual Executive Teaching Suite





As the concept evolved through the planning phase, a more traditional hybrid model was replaced by a fully virtual classroom design that could accommodate up to 96 remote participants in an immersive, interactive and engaging learning environment. As the design requirement changed, **GVAV** worked closely with other contractors to be proactive in making provisions for the extra power and space required to accommodate the system. With many relevant product options available from different manufacturers, extensive demonstration, testing and research was carried out with the client before settling on the X2O OneRoom system.

This ambitious project represents the first **GVAV** integration of the cutting-edge OneRoom system, establishing a new standard for virtual meeting

and learning. The University's new VETS facility aims to bridge the gap between in-room staff and remote participants through cohesive, real-time interactive sessions to enrich the shared experience for both students and faculty.

Through a suite of sophisticated built-in features, X2O OneRoom is designed to facilitate engagement and collaboration through real-time tools like interactive whiteboards, breakout groups, polls, quizzes, and a permanent content repository. The system also incorporates a dynamic chat functionality, enabling written communication between participants. By providing a platform that supports rich, interactive content and collaboration in this way, participant engagement and productivity are improved.

One of the standout features of the X2O OneRoom system is its scalability. The platform can accommodate a variable number of participants, as well as flexible room configurations to cater to varying requirements, making this the right solution for Cardiff Business School's new virtual classroom.

Each remote participant is provided with a unique login by the platform's automated system, ensuring security for each session. Once logged in, the user-friendly interface can be accessed via a laptop browser without the need for additional software installations, simplifying access.

Within the software, each virtual participant is assigned a space on the room's video wall. Directional audio inside the room and unique perspective views provided by cameras located at each screen location create an immersive and personal connection between participants and in-room teaching staff. This bridges the gap between physical and virtual interactions, breaking the barriers presented by traditional video conferencing systems. This blend of advanced technology and intuitive design positions the X2O OneRoom system as a leading solution in the evolving landscape of virtual education and collaboration.

Alongside the software, in-room technology plays a crucial role in creating this immersive virtual meeting space. The centrepiece of the room is a 6x2 video wall comprising of 12 Panasonic TH-55EQ2 55" displays mounted to a bespoke curved B-TECH "System X" mount. Marshall cameras are built into the custom mount to provide each virtual participant with a unique perspective

view of the presenter. For immersive sound, Extron SB 33 adjustable-width soundbars are positioned under each column of screens to deliver directional sound, tying the audio to the remote participant.



The system has been designed to offer flexible camera views, allowing users to easily access and change pre-set angles of the room's cameras to provide focus on the most frequently used presentation locations.

Incorporating these options enabled the client to adapt the visual focus for different presentation styles and settings. For example, the primary view for attendees can change to the seating area underneath the branded acoustic panelling for panel/interview sessions and back to the teaching podium or main display as needed.

For the benefit of the in-room presenter, a Panasonic confidence monitor has been mounted on a floor cart, displaying content such as camera streams, participant chat, and whiteboard views to ensure staff remain connected with all aspects of the virtual session.

The main teaching base in the room is a TOP-TEC Messenger lectern with an innovative sustainable worktop, crafted entirely from 100% recycled plastic.

This vibrant and unique surface design, made from PET packaging waste with elements of Kaleido, not only enhances the room's aesthetic appeal but also underscores Cardiff University's dedication to sustainable practices. As well as being eco-friendly, the height-adjustable feature of the lectern ensures DDA compliance and accessibility for all users.

An 86" Clevertouch interactive whiteboard display is located at the back of the room, allowing staff to illustrate and annotate shared content, as well as making use of the whiteboard function within the X20

system.

This display serves a dual purpose, also functioning as a standalone display for Microsoft Teams calls, allowing the client full flexibility in how the room is utilised. For Teams conferencing through the Clevertouch, a Bose VBI video bar has been mounted underneath the display, with an Extron SB 33 soundbar above for room-filling audio.

Mounted below, an Extron button panel allows easy switching between the OneRoom system, or input via HDMI for a laptop connection.



Since handing the space back over to the University during the summer, **GVAV** have been proactive in offering system training and support to ensure a seamless transition at the beginning of the new academic year.

Alongside initiating bespoke training with X2O Media's dedicated support team, a comprehensive user guide has been produced by **GVAV** outlining the simple steps to operate the room and the system within.

With a shared commitment to innovation in education, Cardiff University has long been a valued client of **GVAV**. The implementation of the new VETS facility at Cardiff Business School underscores the University's latest commitment to leveraging cutting-edge technology to enhance the student and teaching experience and reaffirm its position at the forefront of modern higher education.

"GVAV were flexible in adapting to changes in the suite's specification and design at numerous stages of the consultation. VETS is a trailblazer project, and GVAV's explanation and communication of the technology was clear, timely, and professional."

Helen Mussell | Senior Lecturer in Organisational Studies and Director of Online Learning, Cardiff Business School

"Both X2O Media and GVAV coordinated in an excellent manner with University IT and stakeholders to help achieve this definite solution. Both attention to detail and positivity was present throughout - from installation, to programming and delivery, including consideration for rack cooling and ambient noise levels to room aesthetics. The successful execution of this project will provide the school with a truly unique teaching and learning experience. "

Pete Dunsire | Senior Project Manager AV/IT, Cardiff University



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Why GVAV?

Rack build

At GVAV, we don't just excel at systems design...

Our highly skilled engineers build AV racks in-house to the highest quality and specification. With regional build centres located across the UK, you can rest assured we'll build your equipment rack locally - reducing time and travel.

With dedicated rack wiremen and our extensive portfolio of AV products, our AV racks are consistent with the highest standard and ready to fit.

Predominantly built at one of our controlled facilities and designed to exact specifications, AV racks comply with industry standards. Arriving on site, fully assembled and tested, we provide installation, integration, commissioning and handover services as part of our comprehensive service. And, with large stocks of rack equipment, materials and integration hardware in stock, we can also accommodate last minute changes with ease.

Whether your project is small or large, GV rack build is here to get the job done fast.

Systems Integration

Acknowledged in the industry for providing top quality integrated solutions. We develop systems that are easy to use and offer a great user experience.

Working efficiently on site alongside third parties and contractors, we seamlessly integrate cutting edge technologies into legacy systems.

And, with our commitment to uncompromising Project Management, we've got the experience needed to smoothly integrate into any construction or refurbishment scheme, no matter the size.

With technical teams continuously receiving the latest training and development, we ensure they have the most up-to-date skills and product knowledge.

With **GVAV** you can be confident in gaining a beautifully designed and robust AV solution.

Solutions choice and design

GVAV have the skills and resources to ensure success and get the best return on your investment.

With decades of experience, we offer refined designs delivered by highly skilled solution designers who know how to realise your AV requirements.

We partner with our customers to generate the most innovative, cost effective and feature rich solutions and work to the respected, enhanced AVIXA standards to ensure consistency and performance across all of our projects.

No matter the size of your project, we've got you covered.





Project management

We understand the importance of excellent project management, and our experienced team of trained, accredited professionals do too.

As a company we invest heavily in our national PM teams supporting training to accredited standards particularly PRINCE2 and CTS.

Flexible project reporting ensures transparency for customers who can view their project progress throughout the process, and our system helps deliver agile, timely visibility to key stakeholders. Ensuring projects stay on time and in budget.

We will provide additional project managers giving appropriate support depending on the project size. PMs will focus on contractual, multi-trade, SHESQ and onboarding elements of the broader project with tangible benefits to our clients.

This capability is hugely beneficial when the work forms part of an overarching construction project or multiple jobs require management. We will integrate tightly with the principal contractor project team.



Maintenance

With our nationwide network of branches, we offer local expertise, which means you get the support you need!

Offering a wide range of maintenance services supported by our skilled engineers, we will manage your request every step in a friendly, helpful and efficient manner from your very first call.

Our maintenance packages offer excellent value, protects your AV system, reduces downtime, and ensures that it will run smoothly for years to come providing a great return on your investment.



Control systems

Since its inception, GVAV has been at the forefront of bespoke integrated AV systems for business and education. Our mission, to deliver designs that offer excellence to our customers technically and in user experience.

Whether using Crestron, AMX, Extron, or one of our other excellent manufacturers, the foundation is simple, logical, elegant, well-programmed interfaces that make our solutions work for you.

Our highly qualified experts have designed, programmed and supplied a wealth of projects from individual meeting rooms, classrooms and lecture theatres to expansive building wide installations.

We incorporate estate-wide management that handles lighting, audio and building control, and we support environmental room monitoring and asset booking.

Our team carries certifications from all major system manufacturers so that you can expect an efficient and timely control solution. Whether for a new system or to update your existing one. Our interfaces are intuitive and reliable.

Training

We recognise the difficulties organisations face in implementing new technologies, promoting user adoption and building operational confidence amongst end users.

They are the fundamental elements that help guarantee you're getting the most out of your system.

No matter the level of in-house technical knowledge, adopting new products and work methods can be complex. But, taking on these challenges allows you to augment your business practices, provide your customers with better service, and compete more effectively.

Technology changes fast, and AV is constantly evolving, making it a truly exciting field. However, we understand this is a daunting prospect if you don't deal with AV all the time. We can provide the reassurance you need through training.

Training is an essential element of any well designed AV solution and represents a powerful tool for promoting user adoption. It maximises the benefits of the technology by enabling it to reach its full potential.

Technical support

GVAV knows how vital good technical support is to our customers and understands their wide range of support needs. We will match support levels to your specific requirements considering user experience and system complexity.

Our support services include access to **GVCORE**, our support and service desk solution for incident logging, management and resolution, accessible by phone, email or secure login

Customer satisfaction is of paramount priority, and we take pride in the quality and professionalism of our support services. You will receive expert advice on usage, helping you get the best out of your equipment and keeping it working in peak condition.



GVAV - a family business

The secret to our success is the people behind the business, with every member of our team passionate and dedicated to developing innovative AV solutions for our customers. With a heritage dating back to 1976, **GVAV** embraces a family ethos that has run through the business since the beginning.

Now with more than 150 people and with over 45 years in the industry delivering a broad spectrum of projects, there's nobody better to trust with your audio visual project.



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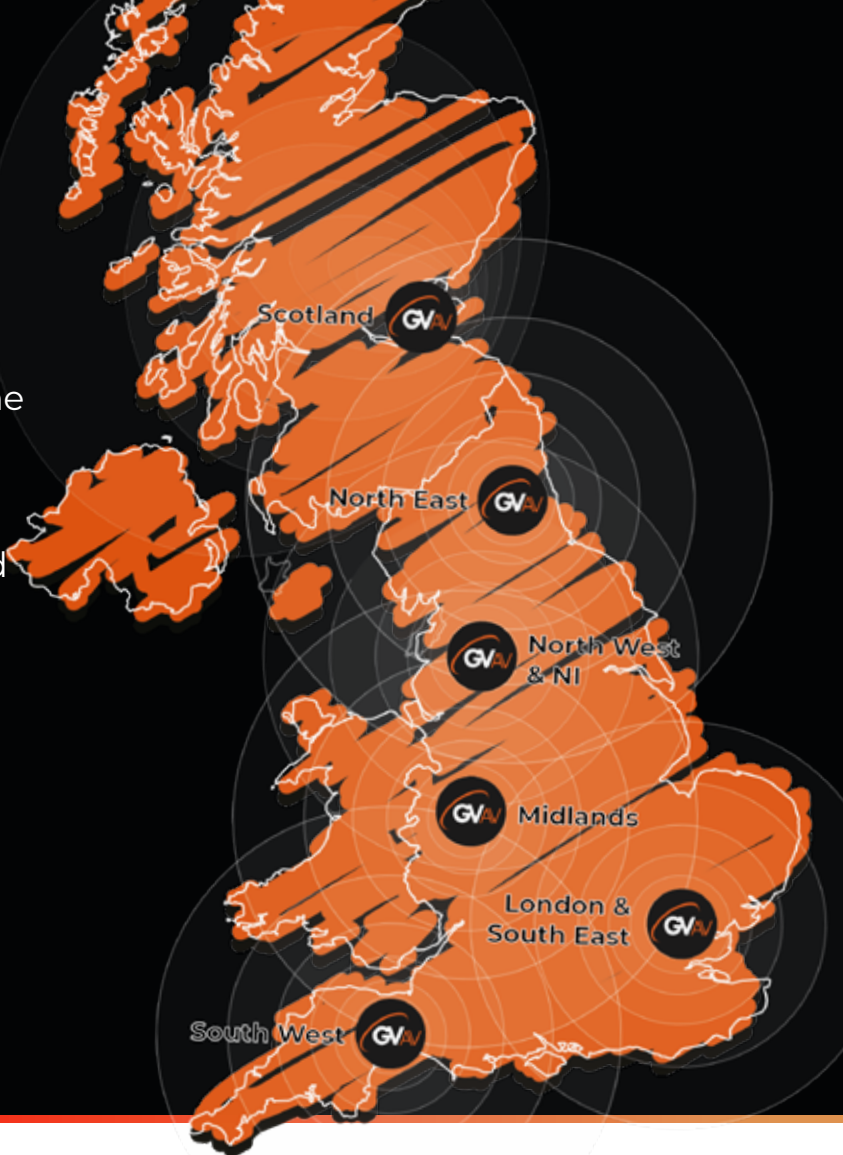


Ready to deliver the systems you need

Our six dedicated local hubs across the UK offer a full range of services to make your AV ambitions come to life. From consultation, planning, design, training and maintenance, we have the experience to deliver.

With recent moves to enhanced branch facilities in London, Exeter and Dundee, we're in the best position to offer a bespoke local service to customers across the UK.

Whether you're looking for a full AV solution, a refit of an existing space, or just want to upgrade some old kit, contact your local **GVAV** Account Manager.



Delivering the next generation of collaborative spaces

GVAV's nationwide team are ready and waiting to support this new world. We deliver outstanding AV solutions that allow you to work more closely than ever, no matter how far apart. Collaboration has genuinely become a superpower for success.

Speak to your local branch today and find out how our dedicated team can help you revolutionise your space!



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New address!

Six local branches across the UK

GVAV has installed thousands of projects nationwide. With local branches covering the entire country and a central hub of systems and resources, we are ready for any project, no matter the size or complexity.

At GV, we have the skills, local resources and experience to take your needs from a concept to a fully integrated and supported Audio Visual solution.

On hand to help

GVAV provides sales, service and support, accessible via mobile, web or email. Our customers can contact us whenever and wherever they need to, and we take customer satisfaction very seriously, so training, support and effective project management are critical to all we do.

Maintenance and support

Our nationwide network of branches means local, experienced engineering resources for our customers. From essential preventative maintenance to site-resident engineers, extended hours and short term events or full operational support, whatever you need, **GVAV** can help.

Our project, technical, and programming teams ensure your AV projects deliver on every level.

We pride ourselves on offering the best quality goods and services, and our customers know they always get great value for money.

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