



GVAV Case Study

Teesside University
Digital Life Building



Teesside University's new Digital Life building marks a major milestone in the University's commitment to a responsible and sustainable digital future, providing state-of-the-art teaching and learning facilities for their highly ranked School of Computing, Engineering & Digital Technologies.

This innovative new facility brings together cutting-edge teaching environments, experimental labs and collaborative digital spaces under one roof, providing a future-ready infrastructure for students across a range of disciplines.

GVAV were appointed to deliver some of the most technically demanding audio visual elements of this landmark project, working closely with the University and other specialist integrators to curate a cohesive experience across multiple high-performance spaces all within an exceptionally tight five-week schedule. The product supply and installation work in these key spaces contributed to the success of this project as Education Project of the Year at the AV Magazine Awards 2025.

Featuring

- ViewSonic gaming & PC monitors
- ViewSonic ViewBoards
- Q-SYS audio & networked control
- Yealink Microsoft Teams Rooms
- HyperVSN holographic display
- Proto hologram display



Watch now:



Events space

A central feature of Digital Life is its impressive 750-seat auditorium. With retractable tiered seating, this space can be used as a traditional auditorium or flat floor event space to accommodate everything from academic lectures, to public events and hybrid presentations.

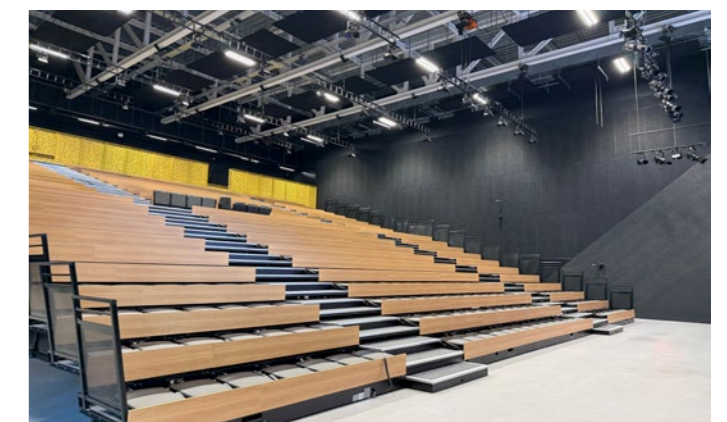


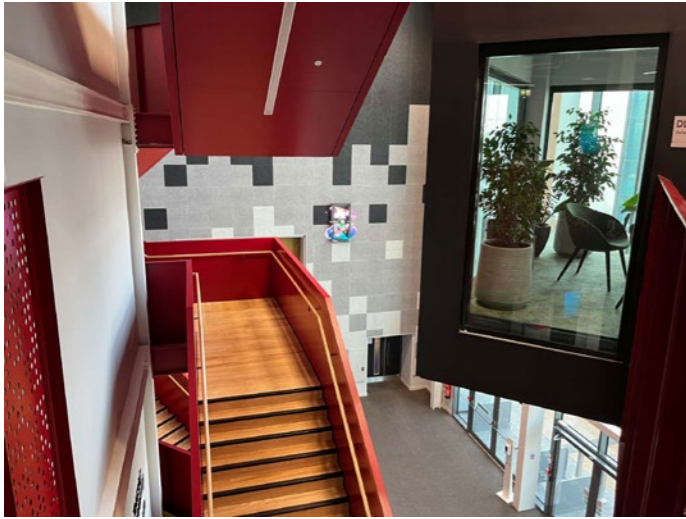
To support the versatility required from this flagship venue, **GVAV** supplied and installed a comprehensive Q-SYS audio and networked control system, at the heart of which sits a Q-SYS Core 610 processor supported by amplifiers and line array loudspeakers to deliver clear, evenly distributed sound throughout the space. Q-SYS pendant speakers extend this coverage for consistent audio quality, while Q-SYS touchscreens with a **GVAV**-designed GUI provide intuitive control of the whole system for the benefit of university staff and presenters.

and events environment, with a consistent user experience and a simplified control model.

Located outside the flexible teaching space, a HyperVSN spinning hologram displays 3D-like moving images in mid-air. This serves as a distinctive digital focal point for visitors and reinforces the technological ambition of the Digital Life building.

The space is also equipped with a wireless Sennheiser microphone system for dependable voice reinforcement and hybrid audio capture for both in-room and remote participants. The combination of these elements allows the space to operate reliably as a hybrid-ready teaching





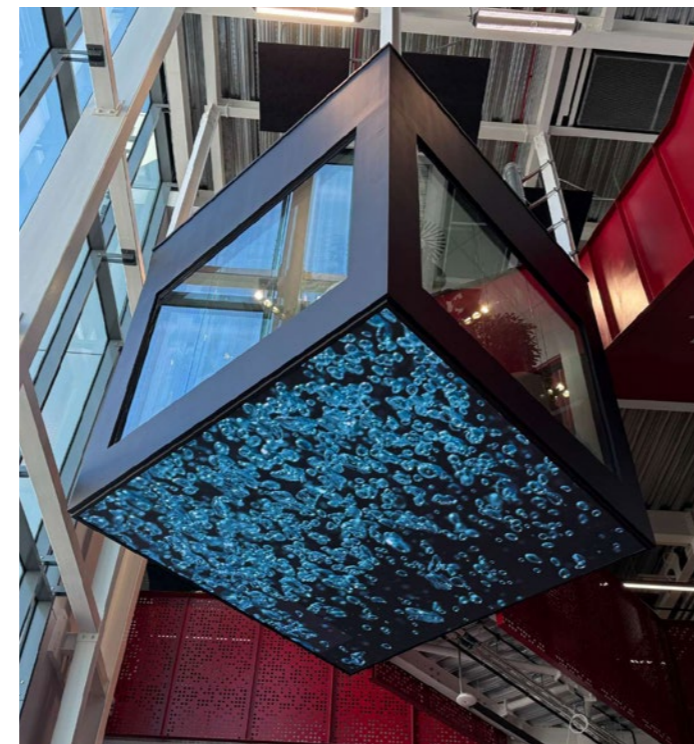
Digital Commons

Digital Life's Digital Commons serves as a dynamic social and collaborative space where students can engage with digital media, informal study activities and emerging interactive technologies.

GVAV supported the University's vision for this space by delivering a full audio system and Q-SYS integration, enabling seamless control and distribution of sound throughout the area. On entering the Digital Commons, visitors are greeted by a Proto Hologram unit that has the capacity to deliver lifelike, full-scale 3D content, creating an immediate point of engagement and setting the tone for an immersive digital experience. Elsewhere,

a Cyberith Virtualizer VR treadmill introduces immersive simulation, allowing students to engage with different virtual environments with a full-body experience.

In contrast to these highly immersive technologies, Digital Life also incorporates a dedicated Digital Detox Room, designed to offer students a place to step away from screens and disconnect from technology. Mounted on the underside of the suspended room is an LED display adding a dramatic moving visual element that further enhances the atmosphere and encourages experimental learning and exploration.



Games Lab

A new Games Lab offers an advanced learning environment underpinned by an ambitious technical design. Working alongside XMA, **GVAV** supplied and installed an AV system designed to support an 80-seat teaching space, which is divisible into two separate 40-seat rooms to suit different pedagogical requirements.

Dual Yealink MVC S90 Microsoft Teams Room systems provide full hybrid functionality for seamless collaboration between in-room and external participants, as well as allowing for digital content sharing between students and tutors. When the dividing wall is opened, the system can reconfigure to operate as a single, unified space under a master control mode.

The MVC S90 bundle includes Yealink's MCore 4 mini-PC running Teams Rooms, an MTouch Plus 11.6-inch touch panel for room control, and multiple UVC86 dual-lens 4K PTZ cameras. Together, the cameras provide AI-driven speaker

tracking, auto-framing and intelligent multi-camera switching for more natural meeting views.

The system incorporates lighting control to add to the immersive qualities of the space, while Sony PTZ cameras, Sennheiser ceiling microphones and Q-SYS video endpoints work together to capture high-quality audio and video throughout the room. This infrastructure provides a professional-grade esports environment for live demonstrations, game testing and recorded sessions to be shared across multiple platforms. Two Unicol-mounted 98" Sony displays provide 4K visuals for the room's participants, ensuring that every student has a clear, direct view of the content being presented.

This space offers students access to an environment that mirrors industry practice, giving them the best environment to develop, test and meet in a robust, future-ready space.





Wider Technology Integration

ViewSonic display technology supplied via **GVAV** features heavily throughout Digital Life as the preferred option for teaching and learning PC monitors, signage displays and interactive touch screen displays. Chosen for their display quality and refresh rate, ViewSonic gaming monitors have been supplied into the Games Lab, while 51 Series ViewBoard displays are mounted on trolleys throughout the building, acting as 'mobile Microsoft Teams Rooms' for one-touch access to online meetings and as an interactive teaching aid.

Beyond the primary teaching and event environments, **GVAV** have further strengthened the University's digital infrastructure by supplying a range of specialist technologies that enhance the building's character and support its pedagogical aims. ViewSonic PC monitors supplied into the teaching labs provide reliable and consistent display technology to support learning.

Within the Games Corner, an arcade machine has been supplied by **GVAV** to give the building a fun and social element, offering an informal, playful touchpoint while reflecting the digital theme running through the building.



A Digital Campus Built for the Future

Digital Life demonstrates Teesside University's commitment to leveraging high-performance, future-proofed AV and immersive technologies to improve learning outcomes, while engaging students in emerging digital disciplines.

As a new build, this project required multiple contractors to work in parallel, with efficient communication and organisation being paramount to meet tight deadlines. **GVAV**'s Sales and Technical teams were able to leverage a wealth of experience locally to manage the project and work effectively with other collaborators to bring this project together.

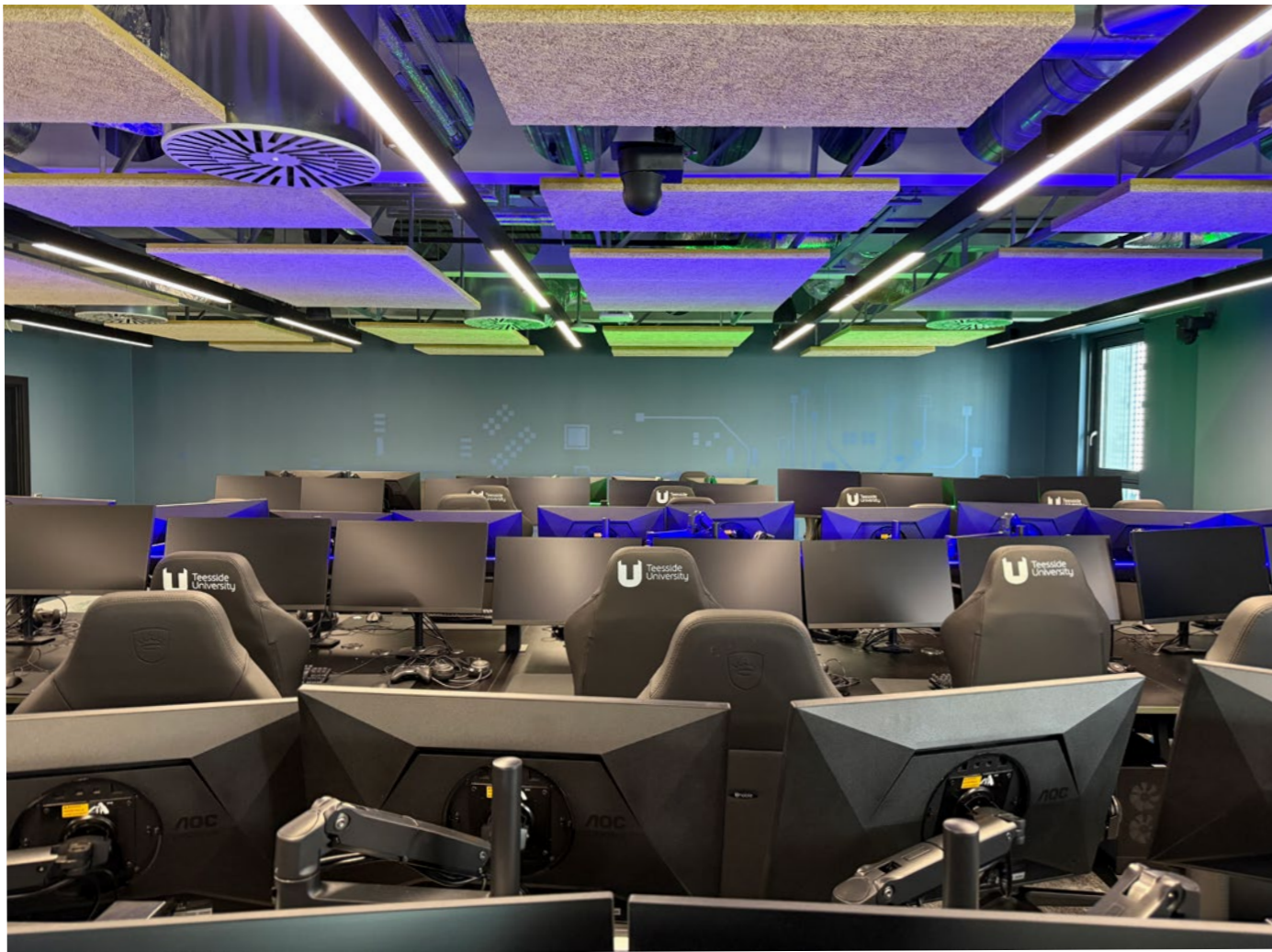
The technology delivered within the new Digital Life building creates a modern digital learning environment for students and supports the University's continued success, including recognition in 2025 as The Times Higher Education 'University of the Year', Daily Mail 'Modern University of the Year', and most recently 'Education Project of the Year' at the AV Awards.

"The Digital Life project was a significant challenge, as it was executed at a serious pace; the fit-out for the entire building was completed in just five weeks. The speed and agile nature of the project necessitated working with multiple integrators, which increased the overall complexity. This effort all seems worthwhile now, however, after we were awarded Education Project of the Year at the AV Magazine Awards 2025.

GVAV is very much a trusted partner, and we were pleased that they managed to win the contracts for some of the most complex elements of the project. GVAV provided window processing, control, and audio in our event space - a 750-seat auditorium - as well as audio and a HyperVSN hologram wall in our Digital Commons area. Furthermore, they handled the full AV kit-out of our games design and esports labs, which consist of 80 seats and can be converted into dual 40-seat spaces with lighting control and Microsoft Teams integration.

The company's professionalism, can-do attitude, and willingness to work in partnership with the university and alongside the builders Wates towards common goals really stood out. GVAV were as committed to hitting our deadlines as we were and a big part of our success in the AV Awards."

Paul Wilson
Head of the Digital Campus at Teesside University

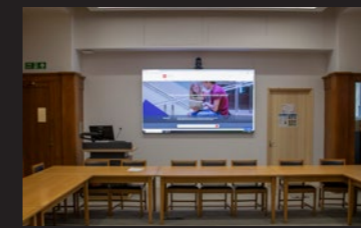


Check out our other recent case studies from across the UK...



Locomotion Museum, Shildon

Interactive exhibits have been refreshed with new touch-screen displays to help visitors explore the museum's railway heritage in a more engaging and accessible way.



LSE: Vera Anstey Room

This versatile boardroom/seminar space in LSE's Old Building has been upgraded with a new Samsung LED wall, as well as Q-SYS cameras and control for hybrid meeting and collaboration.



University of Cambridge: Ray Dolby Centre

The new home of the world-renowned Cavendish Laboratory features a fully integrated AV environment designed to support hybrid learning, research and collaboration.



Birmingham Multistory

A new amenity-rich community hub in central Birmingham features high-spec AV across multiple zones, including co-working spaces, meeting rooms, and a tiered auditorium.



Leeds Trinity University: City Campus

A new City Campus features high spec AV across 60+ spaces including lecture theatres, meeting rooms, collaborative spaces, specialist legal training areas, computer labs and social zones.

Every project starts with a **Bright Idea.**



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ONLINE**



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.

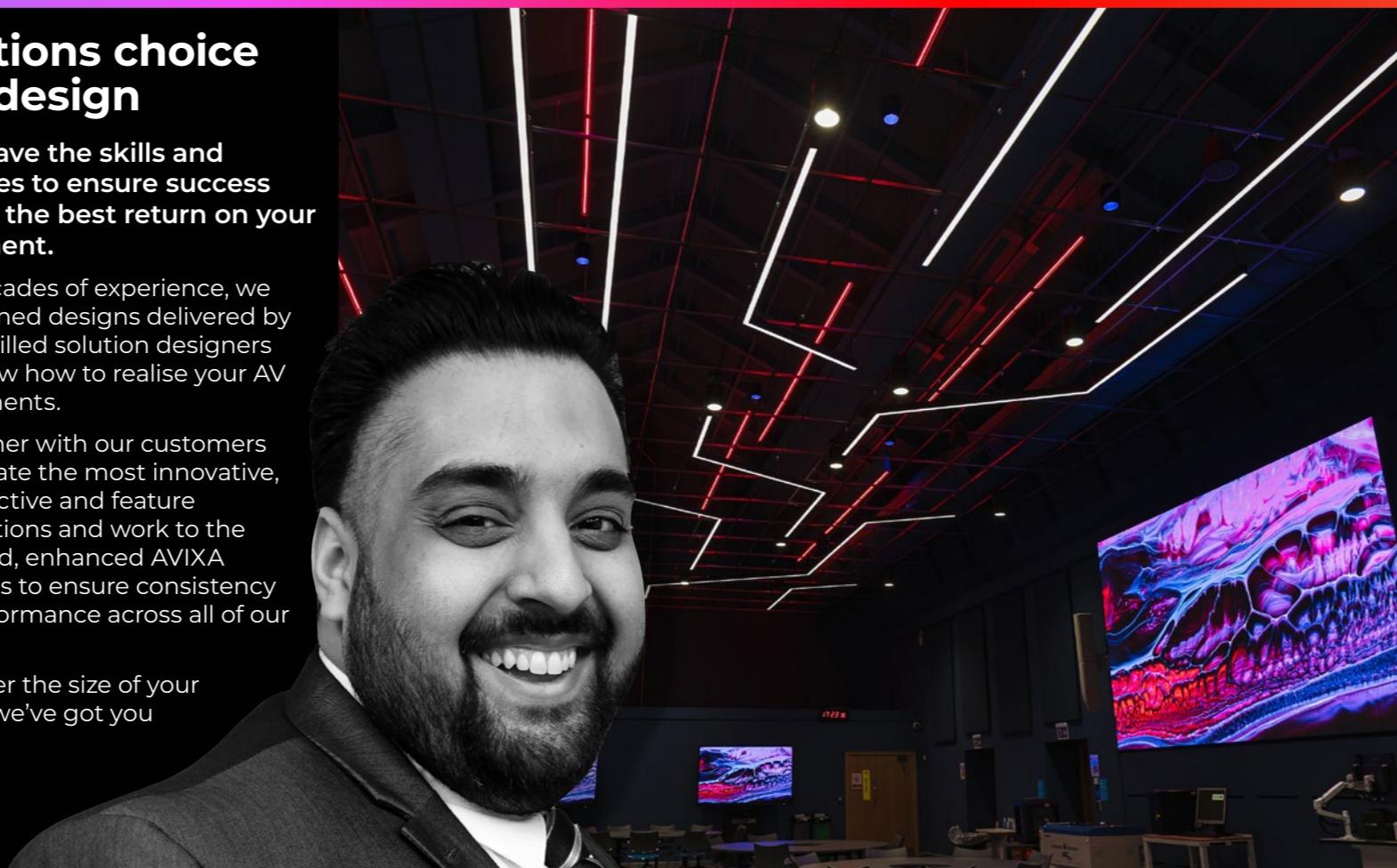
Solutions choice and design

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.



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.



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.



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.

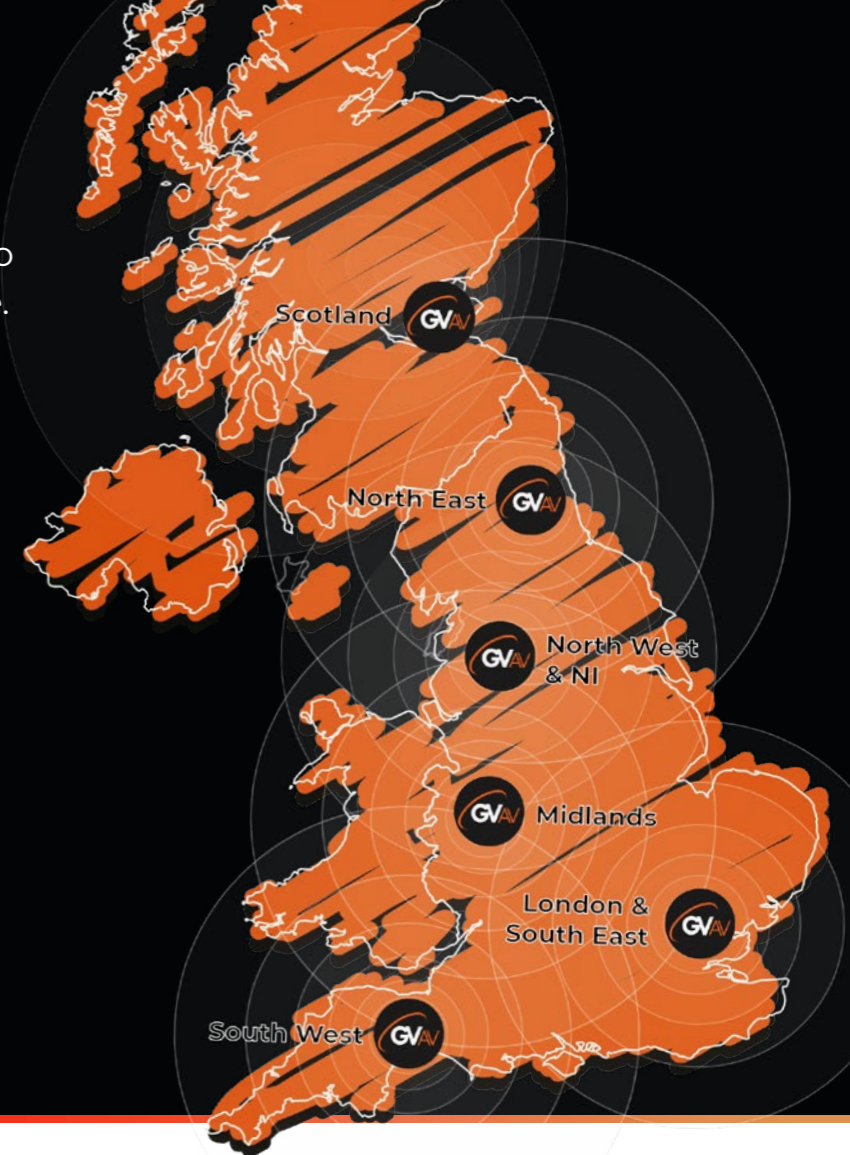


Ready to deliver the systems you need

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.



Don't miss out...

Follow us



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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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.

gvav.com
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