

Duke Video Conferencing Options

Category	Brand Name (Click for more info)	What Does It Do?	How Much?	Benefits	Challenges
Software Based Codec	Cisco Movi	Voice, Audio and data sharing point to point or multipoint with external bridge.	There is no cost to Duke schools or departments	Can connect to software or hardware video conferencing or Cisco TelePresence systems. Macintosh or Windows compatible	Have to install software. Requires hardware for video and audio echo cancellation (or headsets)
ISDN Hardware Codec	Any modern video conferencing codec can be fitted with ISDN interfaces	Hardware based system that uses ISDN Telephone lines to connect to other systems. While not widely used in the US, this type of system is still used internationally.	Same as IP systems plus 2-3% for ISDN hardware	Dedicated lines may prove to be more reliable than using the public internet.	Substantial per minute phone line charges could be incurred because multiple lines are required. Not supported at Duke - requires assistance from MCNC.
"Personal" IP Hardware Codec	Tandberg EX Series Tandberg 1700 MXP Tandberg 1000 MXP	Small IP based VC system that usually has camera and monitor in one unit	A few thousand to several thousand dollars	Great quality, very portable, small footprint.	Not suited for more than one or two people per system
"Standard Definition" IP Hardware Codec	Not Recommended	Uses standard definition video on room based system	Overall cost differential between standard definition and high definition makes standard definition systems a poor value.	Great video quality on decent broadband internet connection	Will not support high definition video causing overall quality reduction for call.
"High Definition" IP Hardware Codec	Tandberg C40 Tandberg C60 Tandberg C90	Uses high definition video integrated into room based system or portable carts	Thousands to tens of thousands of dollars	Exceptional video and audio quality, performance and reliability. Advanced systems support multiple cameras and monitors.	Requires room installation with proper lighting and audio echo cancelation. to experience HD video conferencing, all participants must also be on HD systems. Requires higher quality network connection compared to standard definition.
Telepresence	Cisco TelePresence	Highest quality video and audio collaboration to feel as if you are in room with other participants.	Tens to hundreds of thousands of dollars per system.	Fully immersive collaboration experience that is highly reliable and adds context to collaboration experiences. Can connect to video conferencing systems, hardware or software	Room lighting and acoustics should conform to standards, stringent network requirements.

A "Codec" (pronounced CO-deck) is the technical term for a "encoder-decoder" that is used to transmit video conferences.

"IP" means it will use the standard internet networking protocols to connect to the other sites.

A "bridge" is a hardware device that can connect multiple people into one video conference, even if they are all using different types of systems (software, IP, etc).