



Scheduling Videoconferences

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Software Vendor Products

- Microsoft VCWizard
- Forgent ALLIANCE MULTIMEDIA
 - Purchased TODD and GSS (Global Scheduling System)
- Radvision iVIEW VCS
- Polycom Conference Suite (PCS)

Write Your Own

- You can write your own site-specific software using the vendor's API
- Northwestern University has one for their campus using Radvision MCU

Considerations

- Are you aware of all the endpoints that you conference with?
- Do you use Gatekeepers for E.164?
- Do you prefer dial-in or dial-out?
- How familiar are your end users with the equipment?
- Do you want ad hoc ability?

Considerations

- Do you plan to use GDS?
 - The preceding 00 can be a problem for some vendors
- Is your network all one brand?
- Do you have a mixed (IP and ISDN) environment?
- Do you need to closely track usage?

What the Commons Is Using

- Manually scheduled from a web form
<http://commons.internet2.edu/schedvc.html>
- We tried Magicsoft VCWizard
 - They could not keep up with our upgrades
 - The Commons tries to always have the latest and greatest software and hardware
- We are looking into Polycom Conference Suite (PCS)

Who Can Request Use of the Commons?

- Only subscribers can schedule conferences on the Commons MCUs
 - We do still have one MCU available on a first come, first served, ad hoc only basis
 - This MCU will only have 384 kbps Voice Switched conferencing
- Right now requests are handled manually

How do I request?

- Web form

- <http://commons.internet2.edu/vcrequest/>
 - This form is password protected
 - Password will be sent upon subscription completion
- Form is transmitted to the Internet2 Commons Support Center at OARnet
 - You will receive a confirming email with proper instructions

Email the request

- To ensure a prompt response send it to: support@oar.net but you must be a subscriber
- Be sure to include the following information:
 - Date, Time (including time zone), and duration
 - Your contact information
 - Data rate
 - Number of sites
 - If continuous presence, specify a format
 - Do you want the conference streamed?
 - If so, provide evidence of an audience

More Info ...

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