

Creative Architectural Design & Solving Collaboration Challenges



The workplace today is evolving as fast as the technology that supports it. Adapting to new work styles, the thinning line between work and leisure, and the emergence of a new workforce, which is open to embracing new technologies.

For many businesses, staying ahead of emerging design advances and solving collaboration and presentation challenges is often a complex task. To guide through this recurring business dilemma, PlanNet has laid out a series of opportunities for businesses to level-up their user experience and solve their collaboration challenges.



Opportunity #1. The Open-Office Space Impact.

If you haven't noticed, the open office space is a design trend that is taking over the workplace landscape. The proponents of it say that it encourages people to collaborate in a way they might not in a standard office. The demand for it is growing. In turn, this phenomenon has introduced the concept of small, custom-designed spaces such as huddle rooms and phone rooms.

Huddle rooms or small conference areas equipped with video conferencing and display technology are the new norm. Phone rooms, typically for one user, allow for privacy when making a business or personal call, which otherwise would not be available in an open office setting.

There are new huddle room solutions that come with fully integrated beam-forming microphones, and a USB bridge for computer and webcam to support a BYOD approach. This differs from the soft codec rooms where the dedicated room PC has excellent microphones, speakers, and cameras rivaling traditional hardware video conferencing systems.

“The plan for the project is to create more of an open-plan alternative workspace with minimal offices at the core, supported by huddle rooms, conference rooms, collaboration areas/rooms and alternative work areas with mobile technology that will allow colleagues to work successfully within the new modern open workplace.”

Financial Institution Client discussing corporate office renovation, 2017



Opportunity #2. **Optimizing your Investment.**

AV now runs on the network! The convergence of AV and IT means you can leverage your existing investment of all of your network hardware. Essentially, providing lower cost to distribute and run AV since data cables are more cost-effective than traditional AV cables.

This allows the same infrastructure to be used for computer data and AV and thus reduces the complexity of different wiring infrastructure. The proper approach depends on the quality requirements, network infrastructure, and distribution requirements.

Opportunity #3. **Web Conferencing.**

Web conferencing and cloud collaboration platforms have completely changed the game. The video conferencing (VC) collaboration question has evolved over the years from “Do you have VC?” to “Join my VC”. Now, the new question is “Do you support HD video?”. The cloud-based solutions are game changer agents in the video collaboration areas and the questions you should be asking yourselves is when, how, and what are your priorities.



Opportunity #4. LED Panel Technology.

A colossal, bright display with lots of quality – this is what LED panel technology solves. Previous to LED panels, a traditional video wall was used by mirroring four displays each having unsightly seams. LED walls are similar to electronic billboards but have high resolution and high quality color and come in virtually any shape and size.

This trend started mostly within the Entertainment industry for live concerts or big productions. Now LED panel technology is moving into enterprise businesses and institutions. LED panels are a great solution where a sizable display is required and projection is not an option. The list of perks are extensive and include:

- seamless image;
- visual quality that is not affected by ambient light;
- a live presenter has no chance of blocking the display;
- the panels have a 10-year life span with virtually no maintenance; and
- the technology is becoming more affordable and the quality is increasing.



Opportunity #5. Wireless Video Screen Sharing - Ditch the Cable!

Wireless video screen sharing, can anyone remember when this technology wasn't available? Feels like another lifetime. Wireless video screen sharing has advanced in a very short time. Screen sharing is a must these days and most can seamlessly integrate no matter whether you're sharing from a laptop or a tablet.

The emergence of tools like Chromecast, AppleTV, etc., where you can connect your laptop, tablet or smart phone to a display monitor without a cable, has changed the game. Full HD quality is emerging in commercial solutions. This creates some challenges, especially with younger generations in the workforce who do not understand why they can't stream at work like they do at home.



Don't let the user experience in collaborative spaces fail due to technology. High quality solutions are here at reasonable prices like never before.