



SMARTCOMM PUT THEIR HART INTO IT.

The Great Western Ambulance Service HART facility (Hazardous Area Response Team) is one of several teams serving in England, delivering an efficient and effective emergency service to the South West region. The HART team is a specially trained service dedicated to providing ambulance response to major incidents. These may involve hazardous material, such as Chemical or Explosives, or could involve complex incidents such as train crashes or large-scale motorway accidents. When Smartcomm were given the opportunity to help GWAS kit out their new dedicated HART base in Filton, Bristol, we were only too happy to help a member of our emergency services.

The project consisted of upgrading the base's most utilised spaces; the Briefing room and Training rooms. The control of the entire system lies in the Crestron TPS-6X Wireless touch panel, controlling all screens throughout the rooms. It also controls the Video Conferencing system and any other accompanying sources such as laptops or DVD players.

The Briefing room

The Briefing room is the focal point for the HART team and used everyday to assess new emergencies or review of events when the Paramedics' shifts change. The two wall-mounted LG 47" LCD plasma flatscreen TVs, Panasonic 50" Plasma screen and 50" Panasonic Smartboard reflect the range of functions carried out in this room, and each screen provides the HART team with a different facility, integral for supporting their daily challenges.

The 50" Panasonic Smartboard was already in use by the HART team and given to Smartcomm to incorporate in the project. The board can be used as an interactive whiteboard or presentation with the facility for a resident PC to be connected so the interactive display can also be used as a touchscreen desktop.

The first of the 47" screens hosts a Video Conferencing system provided by Polycom, complete with a state-of-the-art Eagle Eye HDX-7000 camera, providing clear and precise VC communications for group briefings.



The second equally impressive LG screen contains a system that connects to cameras placed in the response team's ambulances or on their uniform, allowing the rest of the team to follow journeys and assess a hazardous area from the HART base.

The third 47" display is simply a TV connection, keeping the team up to date on any breaking news. Discreet plates have been installed within the Briefing room table to provide HDMI and VGA connection for laptops or other devices.

A sleek and versatile Crestron TPS-6X wireless touch panel is on hand to control functions for each screen.

The Training room

The Training room at GWAS is used by HART teams across the UK for a range of teaching. The room is one large space that can be converted into three smaller rooms using simple partitions. Smartcomm designed the AV equipment with these independent spaces in mind. An LG LCD 65" plasma screen takes pride of place in the first of the Training rooms and can be used to address all three rooms once the partitions are removed.

The 65" display is accompanied by a rack of facilities including Blu-ray player, laptop connection and resident PC.

Two LG 47" LCD TVs provide repeater screens to the 65" display, but can also work independently for rooms two and three. The smaller screens have been fitted onto Axia High Level trolleys, to become transportable and can be moved swiftly from room to room with ease.

Compact JBL Control 24CT ceiling speakers have been fitted to provide audio throughout.

The new GWAS HART building opened earlier this year and has provided the hard-working team with a well-deserved state-of-the-art facility, enabling them to continue tirelessly saving lives.

System Designer: Mark Allen

Cost of project: £72,000

Project Duration: 5 weeks (accommodating building works)

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