



HP Halo Collaboration Studios

A powerful, new communication tool
for the public sector



A high-resolution telepresence environment that makes the other side of the globe seem like the other side of the table.

In today's world, effective, real-time communication is crucial

Ensuring defense and security, responding to public health emergencies and natural disasters, diffusing diplomatic crises, leveraging educational resources—all rely heavily on effective real-time communication. Timely, accurate communication is increasingly challenging for public sector organizations, with situations evolving rapidly, and key officials, experts, and personnel scattered across countries, continents, and time zones.

Bring the world to you

Imagine meeting face-to-face with officials and personnel on the other side of the globe, while observing their physical and emotional reactions as though you were in the same room together—with none of the drawbacks of conventional videoconferencing. No perceived video or audio delays, no static or noise—just images and sound so lifelike you have to remind yourself that the people sitting across from you are actually thousands of miles away. That's the experience of using Halo Collaboration Studios, HP's best-in-class telepresence solution.



What is Halo?

HP Halo is a state-of-the-art telepresence solution—a dynamic, real-time collaboration environment created by DreamWorks Animation™ and perfected and delivered by HP. Halo is a network of specially designed multimedia studios connected via the Halo Video Exchange Network or "HVEN." The HVEN is Halo's dedicated, high-speed, fiber-optic infrastructure, which allows officials and personnel in distant locations to communicate as though they were sitting at the same table together.

Halo takes videoconferencing to a new level of realism, letting you see every expression, hear every word, and detect every subtle shift in body language. Studio-quality cameras, high-definition video screens, and ultra-sensitive audio equipment transmit images and sounds with unprecedented clarity.

Halo allows face-to-face interaction even if you're thousands of miles apart—for a level of communication that's crucial to effective negotiations, crisis management, and even routine organizational management.



Halo makes distance irrelevant

Distance doesn't have to limit access anymore. Halo allows face-to-face meetings among local, regional, and national officials anytime, without costly, time-consuming travel.

■ Security for defense and diplomacy

Security is paramount in sensitive defense and diplomacy meetings. Halo Collaboration Studios incorporate powerful encryption technologies, in addition to a fully redundant worldwide fiber network.

■ Public health emergencies and natural disasters

When a disease epidemic breaks out or natural disaster strikes, coordinating with key experts and officials quickly can have a tremendous impact on the outcome. Halo enables face-to-face contact to facilitate timely decisions and resource movement.

Halo also lets geographically dispersed medical specialists consult with each other and with patients who might not otherwise have access to their expertise.

■ Education

Halo is a powerful way to enable key faculty members and researchers to collaborate across state, provincial, and national borders. Halo eliminates the perceived transmission delays and audio/video synchronization problems that characterize conventional solutions. Moreover, Halo's high-definition collaboration screen is ideal for examining artifacts and documents remotely.



Secure and Available

A network like no other

The backbone of Halo Collaboration Studios is the HVEN, a secure, dedicated, fiber-optic network created by HP to connect Halo studios worldwide. While competitors use virtual networks such as MPLS, which shares thousands of undedicated circuits, Halo signals pass through a maximum of four routers, eliminating quality degradation and perceived latency. The result is a seamless interactive experience, with instantaneous transmission of near-perfect quality sound and images, even between Halo locations on opposite sides of the globe.

Powerful security features

The HVEN is composed of private leased lines that run through secure facilities. It is completely separate from the public Internet and from HP's and Halo customers' enterprise networks. The HVEN terminates at Halo customers' locations, into their own controlled-access terminals. All equipment closets and racks are locked, and all administrative access is logged.

Every point on the HVEN is protected from unauthorized access and activity. HVEN networking devices issue alerts for tampering and attempted intrusion, and all such events are investigated. HP does not store any customer audio, video, or data on Halo or HVEN systems, nor do we permit any recording hardware or software to be incorporated into the Halo architecture.

By the end of 2007, Halo will introduce an advanced cryptosystem based on the Advanced Encryption Standard (AES), chosen in 2001 by the U.S. National Institute of Standards and Technology in cooperation with the U.S. National Security Agency. Halo's own 256-bit AES encryption will be backed up by 2048-bit public-key cryptography for all call signaling and encryption key management.

Lifelike two-way communication

With Halo, participants can speak simultaneously, interrupt each other, and have multiple conversations at once—just like in real, face-to-face meetings. Other telepresence solutions allow only one person to talk at a time because they lack the fully-duplexed spatial audio capability of Halo.

Interoperability with conventional videoconferencing solutions

With Halo Collaboration Studios, you're not restricted to communicating only with other Halo studios. Halo protects your investment by interacting with a wide variety of conventional standards-based videoconferencing equipment.

Dedicated collaboration channel

Halo includes a high-resolution camera, allowing meeting participants to view physical objects and documents on a dedicated collaboration screen. Participants can view documents, illustrations and designs, and even tabletop flip charts for real-time note taking. They can also use the high-definition collaboration screen to share documents and information directly from their laptops by plugging into the in-room VGA connection.

End-to-end managed service

Halo is a truly end-to-end managed solution, with no special IT support required. HP maintains the entire Halo system as a complete, turnkey solution for the full term of the monthly Halo Video Exchange Network (HVEN) service contract. A dedicated HP staff optimizes the Halo experience by performing all diagnostics and upgrades remotely. There's even a Halo concierge available 24x7 to answer any questions, help make connections between officials and personnel, and more.

Multipoint connectivity

With Halo's multipoint connectivity, you can simultaneously communicate with multiple locations around the world. Moreover, a high-quality audio bridge allows teleconferencing links with others who don't have access to a Halo studio.

Fully redundant, unlimited availability

The HVEN is always on, and its fully redundant worldwide fiber network ensures that Halo will be up and running anytime you need it, 24x7. If any given network segment is damaged or otherwise unavailable, the HVEN is rerouted nearly instantaneously. Moreover, you can use Halo anytime, day or night, for the same monthly service charge. No other solution comes close to this level of flexibility without huge additional fees. And no other solution comes close to Halo's quality at any price.



A powerful green solution

Strict national and regional environmental regulations are increasingly commonplace, requiring public-sector organizations to reduce their environmental impacts. Halo is a powerful way to reduce air and ground travel to not only comply with the letter of green regulations, but also actually reduce environmental impacts.

Personal connections. Real-time collaboration.
Halo brings the world to you.

HP Halo Collaboration Studios key benefits:

- Lifelike "same-room" experience
- Broadcast-quality video and fully-duplexed audio
- Fully redundant private fiber network
- OC class backbone for no-latency video
- Dedicated collaboration screen
- High-bandwidth, multi-point connections
- 24x7 Halo concierge service
- Remote management and support
- Turnkey solution



To learn more, visit www.hp.com/halo.

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