

Reliable In-House Collaboration

With the reduction in travel and the need for immediate communications, demand and spending for teleconferencing continue to grow. One alternative to outsourcing these services lets enterprises deploy their own conferencing equipment.

Audio Conferencing services typically charge anywhere from 10 – 25 cents per minute per user including the cost of the long distance call. Charges for multi-party conference calls quickly add up: a 6 person, 60-minute call at 15 cents per minute will cost \$54. Often, users end up paying for long distance charges even though they may be connected to the company's PBX system.

Web conferencing allows multiple participants to share a document in an online session. Any changes made to the document by the chairperson are made visible to all other participants over the Internet.

The web conferencing service is typically billed on a per seat per month basis. A 5-seat license would cost a company \$500-\$750 per month. Some service providers charge 20 – 50 cents per minute per user.

One way to reduce the conferencing expense is to bring both **audio and web conferencing functions in-house**. Proprietary multi-party conferencing PBX solutions are limited in size and feature options, and do not provide web conferencing, only audio.

A specialized manufacturer, like Forum Communications, can provide web and audio conferencing, flexibility and numerous call management functions (roll-call, volume control, reporting, etc.) that the participants desire.

Forum's larger systems also support an Ethernet interface for connectivity to the company's LAN or to the Internet. This interface is used for carrying web conferencing traffic.

The Ethernet interface is also used to allow access to web based user and administrative interfaces.

With its wide range of product specialties, Forum Communication can provide campus-based "red phone" ALERT systems, large or small enterprise solutions and regional blast-911 messages for emergency notification.

Contact Forum Communications at 972-680-0700, or contact Neal Jabara at 972-619-8582.

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