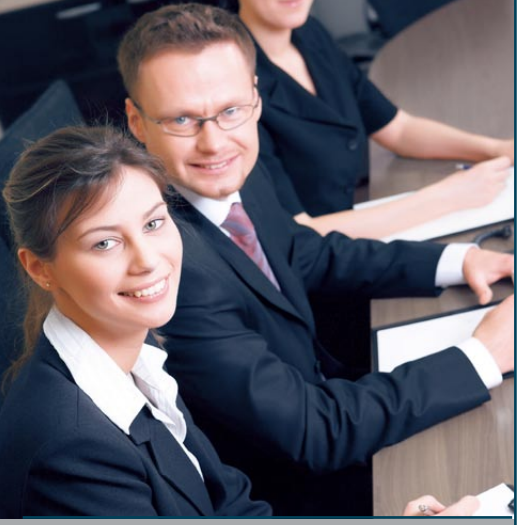


www.kramerelectronics.com

CASE STUDY

AV Technology for Education

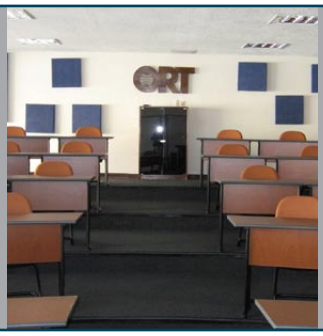
ORT University uses Kramer equipment in classrooms

▶ left

Looking towards the classroom's rear, the small rack contains the room's switching, audio and video reproduction equipment.

▶ right

A view from the rear of the classroom, the teacher's desk is equipped with UTP connections for two PCs - one of which is permanently installed, the other port being available for connection of a laptop.



ABOUT THE CUSTOMER

Universidad ORT is a branch of the worldwide ORT organization, a non-profit undertaking that is devoted to bringing both technical training and higher education to communities throughout the world. Universidad ORT is located in Montevideo, Uruguay and has an enrollment of about 8000 students.

With 5 schools and institutes, Universidad ORT offers a wide array of undergraduate and graduate degrees plus many continuing education programs. For more information please go to www.ort.edu.uy.

THE REQUIREMENT

An early adopter of digitally assisted instruction, the university has been using projection systems for over 15 years. Over the last few years the trend has moved away from "portable" projectors towards fixed installations in each classroom and auditorium.

Given that classrooms vary in size and cabling distance, there were different needs for different areas of the university. In all cases the two most important requirments were high image quality and that cabling should not be visible.

THE CHALLENGE

The challenge, as with most educational projects, was staying within a fixed budget while ensuring that all technical objectives were achieved, among them a certain degree of future-proofing in order to ensure that the installation would remain viable for not less than 5 to 10 years.

THE SOLUTION

The Kramer family of wall plate products plus twisted pair transmission provided the hardware platform needed to deliver the desired functionality. Notably the WP-211DS, WP-110, and TP-120 emerged as the solution of choice for classroom installations. With a combination of high-quality image transmission, low installation cost, and ease of use; these units provide a clear, hassle-free answer to classroom installation project requirements. The fact that UTP requires only a small diameter duct was an added bonus that helps in the installation process.

THE PROJECT DETAILS

The installations fell into two main categories: a) small and simple classrooms, b) larger classrooms with multiple inputs.

In small and simple classrooms, installations were fairly straightforward. A WP-110 wall plate provided a clear connection point for the instructor's laptop. UTP output cable was routed via buried ducting to the room's projector. The classrooms were small enough so that no additional equipment was required and most rooms had only one PC connection point. One WP-110 transmitter (previously TP-110) and one TP-120 receiver were located immediately adjacent to the projector and two short VGA cables (one to the transmitter and one from the receiver to the projector) completed the installation.

CUSTOMER BENEFITS

Given the fact that the demand for visual presentations is ever growing any factors that affect quality and cost are bound to have a lasting impact on the institutional budget. The Kramer UTP transmitter/receiver line has precisely that kind of effect.

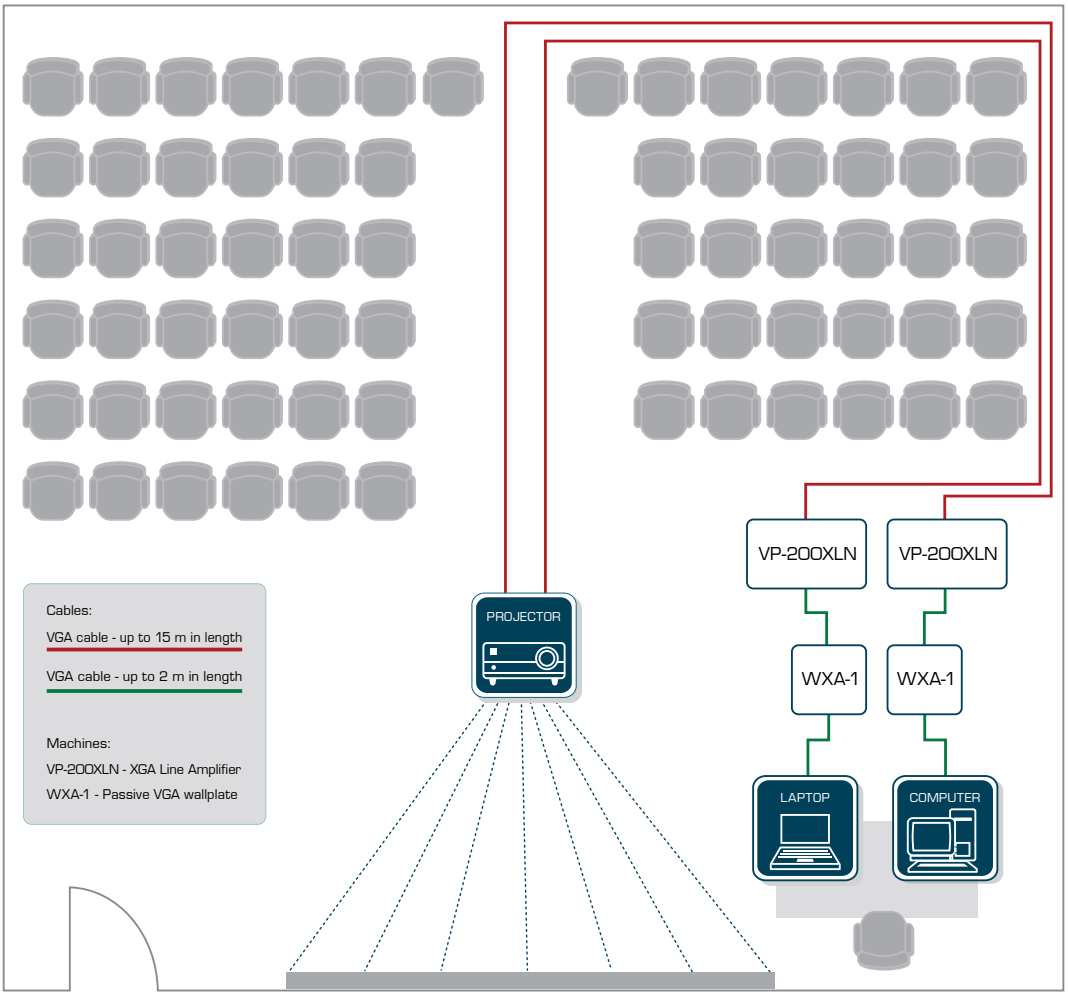
Through the elimination for all practical purposes of length restrictions on cabling, the use of UTP based systems has allowed a far greater freedom in the choice of location for the connection points, this in turn has made it possible that every room has the same "look and feel" from the teacher's point of view, this makes it easier to move from one classroom to another without having to hunt for the connections and assures that everyone is familiar with the system's workings.

The substitution of heavy expensive VGA cables by UTP has a side benefit in simpler, lower cost maintenance and new installations. This in turn drives the ongoing effort to extend the projection system coverage to all classrooms.

In larger classrooms, the complexity varied from one installation to the next. Simpler setups consisted of one WP-211DSA wall plate that connected to two different PC-type inputs. Since WP-211DSA was a standby switcher, it was configured to automatically switch to any active input, thus, there was no need to train teachers to use a switching system. They simply connected their laptop to a clearly marked input and everything worked automatically.

In rooms with more complex connection requirements, the Kramer VP-23 series supplied a practical and economical all-in-one solution. Switchers were used for video and audio, for PC (VGA), composite video, and s-Video. This solution quickly resolved the connection requirements for almost any classroom, provided inputs for almost all possible sources, and provided a healthy margin for growth in the future.

APPLICATION DIAGRAM



KRAMER ELECTRONICS, Ltd.

3 Am VeOlamo St.
Jerusalem, 95463, Israel
Tel: + 972 2 654 4000
Fax: + 972 2 653 5369
E-mail: info@kramerel.com

www.kramerelectronics.com

Cat.no. 2902-000372

Cat.no. 2902-000371