

UCAR Webcasts Earth System Science with NCast Streaming Video Technology

Challenge

To expand UCAR's reach as a global resource for information on weather and meteorological research, and increase their ability to distribute clear and concise information on climate issues.

Solution

UCAR chose NCast's Telepresenter M4 to provide high definition imaging, graphics and presentation, and high resolution audio, streaming multiple inputs within a single package.

Extreme atmospheric events have become an increasingly regular occurrence across our planet in the last decade. Floods, tornadoes, hurricanes and other cataclysmic weather often have disastrous economic and societal impact that can take years to recover from. Now more than ever there exists an urgent need to understand the weather and how to predict it.

For more than 50 years, the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research (UCAR) in Boulder, CO has been dedicated to the study of the Earth's atmosphere and its interactions with the oceans, land, and Sun—or Earth system science. The non-profit consortium of more than 75 universities serves as a hub for research, education, and public outreach for the Earth system science community. UCAR provides professional training and numerous community programs, workshops, and opportunities for global collaboration on a breadth of topics including climate, weather, and atmospheric conditions.

The introduction of streaming video into presentation technology expanded UCAR's reach to the global scientific and academic communities. A recent workshop featuring the scientists who built and launched the Kepler Telescope was viewed by researchers around the world over streaming video sent from their Boulder, Colorado headquarters using high-end streaming technology from NCast Corporation. As Eron Brennan, Multimedia Services Supervisor at UCAR explains, NCast's M4 Telepresenter has delivered on UCAR's need to better manage their streaming video. The NCast solution is used in conjunction with built-in standard definition cameras in UCAR's 300-seat conference center and four smaller auditoriums.

"The primary interest of our viewers in most cases is having the ability to view the presentations, including animations and video, while listening to high quality audio," Brennan reports.

The Telepresenter M4 provides hi-definition, full WUXGA resolution for broadcasting, recording, and playback while enabling the user to combine multiple inputs into a single-stream, picture-in-picture format. It also allows for interaction with other telepresenter units. Its web-based interface enables any Windows-based computer to operate the Telepresenter M4 without requiring software downloads.

Explains Brennan, "Among the things that we like best about the NCast technology is the ability to capture the presenter's computer without them having to download or install proprietary client software. Many of our conferences include multiple presenter laptops, so that feature is very helpful."

Later this year UCAR will begin live webcasting and recording all on-going seminar series, about one a day. More NCast streaming video technology is part of their plan.

"We've been very pleased with how easy it is to use the NCast Telepresenter and the quality of the video it renders," Brennan reports. In fact they've been so pleased that they will be adding an NCast Presentation Recorder to their new corporate technical training center.

NCast Technology in Use on UCAR's Website

Some links to streaming lectures utilizing NCast's Telepresenter technology:

<http://www.asp.ucar.edu/seminars/embed-video/eparvier5-19-11.html>

http://www.fin.ucar.edu/it/mms/webcasts/asp/w_washington.mov

http://www.fin.ucar.edu/it/mms/webcasts/asp/tn_krishnamurti.mov

http://www.fin.ucar.edu/it/mms/webcasts/asp/raj_pandya.mov

http://www.fin.ucar.edu/it/mms/webcasts/asp/walter_lyons.mov

About NCast

NCast Corporation provides industry-leading solutions for the capture, distribution, and archiving of high-resolution, mixed-media content such as rich-media presentations or annotated high-resolution graphics. NCast delivers reliable, automated, simple-to-use presentation products for live and recorded streaming for Education, Medical, Government and the House of Worship markets.

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