

BOW Version 4.2 Collaboration Options



Virtual meetings are audio and video communication systems for peer-to-peer and multi-way meetings held among dispersed groups. To be as effective as physical meetings they need a variety of different data and application sharing solutions.

Today's organizations are increasingly distributed and global and virtual meetings can help to reduce travel while maintaining the productivity of dispersed organizations. They can also enable changes in working practices, such as home working and reduce the environmental impact of a company.

Solution Overview

The BOW solution provides five different types of collaboration tools to help make virtual meetings "as good as being there".

BOW is a new generation of virtual meeting and collaboration system. It combines the data sharing capabilities of web conferencing with the audio and visual capabilities of video conferencing to create a complete virtual meeting solution. BOW meets the total communication needs of modern dispersed businesses.

Face-to-face communications is essential for effective team collaboration and the data sharing used must be suitable for a variety of live information exchanges. One size does not fit all. BOW has identified five different requirements for collaboration and sharing in virtual meetings and provide these capabilities in the BOW system.

**BOW virtual meetings are as
good as being there.
Achieve More; Travel Less.**

Collaboration Options

Making a presentation

Participants in a virtual meeting can present to others using Microsoft PowerPoint.

Working on an application

While in a BOW virtual meeting you can share and collaborate an application running on your computer.

Sharing images and videos

A picture is worth a thousand words. With BOW you can share images and videos with other participants in a virtual meeting.

Text messaging

Sometimes you need to send a text message to others in a meeting or to a contact that is not in a meeting. BOW has an inbuilt secure text messaging system.

Sharing data with video rooms

You can share data with participants in a virtual meeting who join using a video conferencing room system.

FEATURES

VIRTUAL MEETINGS

Face-to-face virtual meetings from your personal computer or video conferencing systems.

AS GOOD AS BEING THERE

You can see and hear the other participants in virtual meeting rooms from two to hundreds of colleagues. Includes all the data sharing and collaboration tools to make your meetings as productive as if you were in the same room.

USE FROM ANYWHERE

Join a meeting from a video meeting room, from home or your desk at work. All you need is a connection to the Internet.

Collaboration Options

The BOW solution has five different collaboration tools to meet different user requirements for sharing data and working together while in a virtual meeting.

BOW Presentation

Microsoft PowerPoint presentations can be viewed by everyone in a meeting. Local rendering of images provides outstanding quality and make them very easy to view and the system very scalable.

The BOW PowerPoint sharing feature creates a traditional meeting environment with a presentation being given to a group of distributed participants in a virtual meeting room. Because the images are generated on each Windows computer, the bandwidth usage is minimized, so even the largest meetings can be supported with no lag in changing slides and no impact on the audio or video quality.

In an open meeting each person can share one or more presentations with the other participants. A set of annotation tools are available to improve the understanding of the presentation and anybody in the meeting can use these when asking a question about the content of a presentation. For larger meetings, BOW has introduced moderated meetings. The moderator has control over who can speak, who can annotate presentations and who can make presentations with the other participants.

BOW Collaboration

Any user can share applications running on their computer. Control of the application can be passed to others in the meeting if appropriate.

The ability to share your desktops with others in a meeting is often used when teams collaborate on a project. BOW Collaboration takes this to the next stage. Any application running on a meeting participant's computer can be shared and viewed by others in the meeting. Control can be passed around the group. By limiting sharing at the application level the inherent security risk of desktop sharing is overcome.

With Bow Collaboration multiple applications on different computers may be shared during the same meeting. Each application is identified as belonging to an owner within the meeting. Bandwidth controls on users and meetings are provided to the administrator to ensure optimal image rendering for resources available.

Sharing Video & Images

Stream a video or show photographs or images to the other participants in a meeting.

When in a virtual meeting it is often desirable to stream a video clip or to show photographs or images to others in the meeting. The BOW Play Media option enables anyone in a meeting to stream a video file or digital image to other participants. Videos can be stopped, paused, rewound or fast forwarded just like a VCR. The video soundtrack is mixed with that of the presenter enabling them to provide real-time commentary of the content.

Collaboration with other video Systems

Video conferencing room systems have implemented a protocol called H.239 to enable presentation data to be shared in a video conference meeting. This works by opening up a second video channel for the information image. BOW provides full support for the H.239 protocol both on the BOW client for sharing between desktop users and a videoconferencing system and in a virtual meeting room where users may be joining using mixed devices. A set of annotation tools is also available on these H.239 meetings.

Sending text messages

BOW has an in-built text messaging system which can be used to send private messages to a contact logged into the system. Text messages can be sent at any time, including to other participants in a virtual meeting

In our constant effort to improve solutions we reserve the right to change or modify features and specifications without notice.

FEATURES

MULTIPLE MEETING TYPES

Meetings can be:

- **ad-hoc:** making a call to other online users
- **Scheduled:** where invites are sent out to others to join a private meeting

- **Moderated:** where a meeting chairman decides who can speak or present
- **Lecture mode:** where participants only see the presenter, but the presenter can see all participants.

MAKE CALLS TO VIDEO ROOMS

Because BOW complies with industry standards, it can be used to make calls from your software client to an existing video conferencing systems.