Saint Petersburg Forum benefits from digital conferencing technology

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Industry:
Congress facilities

End User:
The LenExpo Exhibition Complex
was the venue of the 11th St. Petersburg International Economic Forum (SPIEF) in June 2007. The Forum's plenary sessions were held in the complex's main congress hall that has an area of 3,400 square meters and can accommodate 2,800 participants. The hall was newly built by a Finnish company. In addition to the plenary sessions, round table conferences and the associated trade exhibition were held in other halls within the complex. A total of about 9,000 participants from 65 countries were registered for the Forum.

Business Objective:
The LenExpo complex did not have sufficient conferencing equipment to serve the high number of Forum plenary session delegates – up to 2,500 at any one time. The Forum required discussion equipment that could also provide simultaneous interpretation of seven languages, specifically Russian, English, German, French, Spanish, Arabic and Chinese. Also required were audio and video to allow observation of the proceedings within the complex and on national television.

Solution:
The audio/visual equipment, including a Bosch Digital Congress Network (DCN) Next Generation Conference System, was supplied and installed by Suomen Videoviestintä Oy (SVV), a subsidiary of Finnish Fair Corporation and a customer of Bosch Security Systems. The DCN Next Generation conference set-up in the main congress hall at the Saint Petersburg Forum comprised DCN Discussion Units used in single-channel mode, with 2,500 pocket receivers and earphones for simultaneous interpretation of seven languages through Bosch's Integrus Digital Infra-Red (IR) Language Distribution System. Integrus allows perfect audio reception enabled by high signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) and built-in error correction. Privacy is ensured since IR signals cannot pass through walls or ceilings. The system features innovative transmission via a non-complex and robust network infrastructure combined with a complete range of Contribution and Discussion Units. This configuration ensures optimal speech intelligibility and simplified installation and operation. The microphone is its most critical component, providing clarity, sensitivity and range, for which Bosch has developed technology that optimally shields against mobile phone RF signal interference.

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All conference facilities are provided for, including discussion, electronic voting, interpretation of up to 32 channels, remote interpretation, wireless reception, attendance registration and access control, video display, audio expansion and logging, intercom functionality and Internet participation.

Result:
The high level of professionalism of the Discussion Systems greatly contributed to the success of the St. Petersburg Forum. Commenting on this, Mika Vakkilainen, Technical Director of the Finnish Fair Corporation and Managing Director of SVV, said: "The interpretation and discussion facilities operated very smoothly. It was an enormous challenge and responsibility for us to plan, install and operate the system, especially to ensure faultless provision of the video and audio for outside broadcast by VGTRK, the Russian national TV company. Our client wanted the best and we delivered it, also thanks to the outstandingly high quality of Bosch's DCN Next Generation Conference System."

Installed by:
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