I. AUDIO VIDEO DESIGN NARRATIVE

Introduction

This Audiovisual Narrative describes audiovisual systems capabilities and equipment costs for the new Mary Lowell Center in Seward Alaska.

This narrative is not a technical specification and does not provide details such as manufacturer or model number. The information supplied herein is at the conceptual design level of analysis and will be combined with the Opinion of Probable Cost (OOPC) in order to facilitate decisions about eventual audiovisual capabilities. The OOPC is the estimated cost of the audiovisual equipment and installation costs for the systems as described in the Programming Report. These decisions will help finalize architectural and infrastructure decisions, as well as validate any current assumptions about cost planning.

This report covers only audiovisual capabilities. Acoustical, Architectural, Power and Telecommunications requirements are detailed by others.

Design Narrative

For readers unfamiliar with Sparling audiovisual consulting, we provide systems design and the related infrastructure and architectural expertise to the project team. We do not furnish equipment in any manner, and therefore have no vested interest in the type or amount of equipment that will eventually be purchased. Our only objective is to meet the client's needs and ensure a sensible, competent approach to audiovisual planning.

The recommendations presented on the pages that follow are based on information and requirements provided by the project team during a meeting on December 1, 2005.

The project team should be clear about the difference between providing infrastructure and purchasing equipment. If proper infrastructure provisions have been made from the start, equipment may easily be added or upgraded later as additional funding becomes available without jeopardizing the integrity of the overall audiovisual systems design.

"Infrastructure" refers to the necessary base building provisions such as power outlets, conduit, junction boxes, floor boxes, projection screens, etc., needed to use with audiovisual equipment.

"Equipment" refers to particular audiovisual devices that have specific costs and capabilities associated with them.

Infrastructure must be planned and provided for initial occupancy, whether the audiovisual equipment is purchased or not. Equipment can be thought of similar to furniture - various choices can be made about its' quality and quantity. Some equipment can be purchased for initial occupancy, while other equipment purchases can be deferred.

Projection, video, audio, and control system features are each described separately, with an overview of the significant pieces of equipment in each system. The information supplied is a summation to be combined with the budget material in order to make financial project and audiovisual capabilities decisions.

We refer to the equipment as having one of the following installation designations: dedicated, portable or future provisions.

"Dedicated" indicates that the equipment will likely be used frequently and is permanently dedicated or installed in a specific room. Items with this designation appear in the budget of that space.

"Portable" indicates that the equipment is needed less frequently and can be shared with other meeting rooms and stored in a central Equipment Pool. Only a few items with this designation may appear in the budget.

"Future Provisions" indicates that the capability may not be required initially, but infrastructure and systems design provisions should be made to adapt to equipment at some time in the future. Items with this designation do not appear in the budget, as we do not anticipate their immediate purchase.

Exhibition Room

This room will be designed to support multiple exhibits with multi media content. Each exhibit will have the capability of displaying several still or static images. Next to the still image in each of the exhibits there will be a space to utilize a stretched video image. The projection systems for each exhibit are will be two, or more if needed, 16:9 projectors.

The areas that require program audio for the patron to better experience the exhibit will have audio provided to a very localized area. This is to reduce the over all ambient noise level of the exhibit hall as well as reduce bleed over of audio program into other exhibits.

In addition to localized exhibit audio coverage, zone audio coverage will be provided. The zones will be laid out around the exhibit spaces, in such that each zone can further enhance the exhibit. The zone audio system can also be used as a playback or paging system.

In the Disaster Exhibit there a 61" plasma display will be wall mounted. Provisions will be called out for a wall mount and recommendations for the wall supporting the display.

Source playback devices and material for all projectors and displays will be located at one central rack location. This will provide easy access for user interfacing, monitoring of the system and changing of content.

The following capabilities have been identified for this space:

Projection Systems

- Eight (8) 16:9 DLP/LCD data/video projectors; ceiling mounted; dedicated.

Video Systems

- One (1) large format Plasma Monitors for exhibit use.
- Ten (10) DVD/VHS Combo Players; dedicated.
- Video/Computer switcher scalier; dedicated.

Audio Systems

- Four (4) Localized exhibit audio system, narrow dispersion pattern speakers with dedicated audio playback per exhibit; dedicated.
- One (1) Zoned distributed audio system; dedicated.
- Two (2) wireless microphones; dedicated.

Control Systems

The control system should have two modes of operation. The first is basic control of functions for user's equipment within the room. This will allow the operator to play a video source, or adjust audio volume for example. The second mode is comprehensive control of set-up and operational parameters for all equipment. This will allow trained personnel to perform technical set-up of audiovisual room functionality. The AV control system shall also be set-up to trigger environmental elements such as lighting scenes and shade control as available to each space.

- One touch screen; dedicated.

Theatre

This space is a multi purpose space. As a theatre the space will be used to view pre-recorded material. This space may also be used as a general class room or presentation space.

Video playback and in-room presentations, which require the display of computer, video, and other related electronic media materials, would make use of a ceiling mounted video projector. An AV router would allow any input to be sent to the projector. The room would also have an electric, roll-down front projection screen for use with the ceiling projector.

Computer interfaces or line drivers will be provided at the floor or wall box locations to allow laptops to be connected directly to the audiovisual system. The images from the laptops can then be displayed via the video projector for presentation. Additional video and audio connections should be provided at a lectern location for connection of other portable video type (non-computer) devices.

Lectern connectivity will utilize a flush floor box at the front of the room. Cables from the lectern will connect to the floor box when in use.

A program audio and voice reinforcement system should be provided utilizing a combination of a distributed ceiling speaker arrangement and stereo speaker setup around the projection screen. Two (2) wireless microphones would be used either by the presenter or other participants.

With a room of this size and complexity, we would suggest a control system that would control all installed audiovisual equipment functionality. A touchscreen could be connected at the lectern location or several other connection points throughout the room to control all aspects of the AV system.

The following capabilities have been identified for this space:

Projection Systems

- One (1) motorized, roll-down front-projection screens; dedicated.
- One DLP/LCD data/video projectors; ceiling mounted; dedicated.

Video Systems

- Computer and video connections (and associated audio) at the lectern for display on the video projector; dedicated.
- DVD/VHS Player; Dedicated.

- Video/Computer switcher; dedicated.
- CATV connection to tuner in rack; dedicated.

Audio Systems

- Program sound system with ceiling and stereo wall mounted speakers to provide the audio portions of a video or multimedia presentation; dedicated.
- Voice reinforcement system using the same ceiling speakers as the program audio with two (2) wireless microphones; dedicated.

Control Systems

The control system should have two modes of operation. The first is basic control of functions for user's equipment within the room. This will allow the presenter to play a video source, or adjust audio volume for example. The second mode is comprehensive control of set-up and operational parameters for all equipment. This will allow trained personnel to perform technical set-up of audiovisual room functionality. The AV control system shall also be set-up to trigger environmental elements such as lighting scenes and shade control as available to each space.

- One touch screen; dedicated.

Meeting Rooms

This room will be designed as one space that is able to be divided into multiple spaces up, to three individual spaces, with A/V functionality.

In-room presentations, which require the display of computer, video, and other related electronic media materials, would make use of the projector in each space. An AV router would allow any input to be sent to the monitors. Each room will also have an electric, roll-down front projection screen for use the projector. Each projector will be on a motorized lift so that when it is not in use it can be retracted in to the ceiling and be out of sight.

Computer interfaces or line drivers will be provided at the floor and wall box locations to allow laptops to be connected directly to the audiovisual system. The images from the laptops can then be displayed via the video projector for presentation. Additional video and audio connections should be provided at a lectern location for connection of other portable video type (non-computer) devices.

A program audio and voice reinforcement system should be provided utilizing, divisible by space, ceiling mounted distributive speaker arrangement.

With a room of this size and complexity, we would suggest a control system that would control all installed audiovisual equipment functionality. A touch screen could be connected at three (3) wall locations each accessible by the respective space in which the touch screen is located..

The following capabilities have been identified for this space:

Projection Systems

- Three (3) motorized, roll-down front-projection screens; dedicated.

Video Systems

- Computer and video connections (and associated audio) at the floor and wall box locations; dedicated each division.
- Three (3) DVD/ VHS Player; dedicated each division.
- Video/Computer switcher; located in AV Control Room.
- CATV connection to tuner in rack; dedicated.

Audio Systems

- Program sound system with ceiling mounted speakers to provide the audio portions of a video or multimedia presentation; dedicated.

Control Systems

The control system should have two modes of operation. The first is basic control of functions for user's equipment within the room. This will allow the presenter to play a video source, or adjust audio volume for example. The second mode is comprehensive control of set-up and operational parameters for all equipment. This will allow trained personnel to perform technical set-up of audiovisual room functionality. The AV control system shall also be set-up to trigger environmental elements such as lighting scenes and shade control as available to each space.

- Three (3) touch screen; dedicated per division.