



## Crestron DigitalMedia™ Provides Digital Infrastructure at Johann Wolfgang Goethe-University

### Background

Located in the European financial center of Frankfurt, Johann Wolfgang Goethe-University is one of the ten largest universities in Germany with specialties in social and natural sciences. The School serves more than 36,000 students at four locations.

Goethe-University recently created new initiatives to expand the school's partnership programs with other universities. With the expansion of the school and need for more facilities, Goethe-University developed the new Campus Westend and Science City Riedberg, which unite all natural science disciplines in Frankfurt.

European AV design consultant, Hartmann + Mathias Partnership designed and consulted on the project and BFE Studio and Media Systeme GmbH handled systems integration.

### The Challenge

The team worked through challenges including the sheer number of rooms requiring control and the amount of time the team had to conduct the installation in order for the campus to open for the new school semester. Careful planning was necessary.

### The Solution

As preparations for media technology at Campus Riedberg were in progress, Crestron DigitalMedia™ proved to be the only solution capable of providing all required features for the desired application.

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Product features from various manufacturers were compared but costs were considered and Crestron offered a quality product at a competitive price. The DM transmitter handles all incoming signals and is connected to the network with only one fiber optic line, which also keeps the dimension of the matrix at a manageable level.

### **Systems at a Glance**

DigitalMedia is installed and distributed to various locations at the department of biological sciences including “Biologicum” (28 rooms including 2 lecture halls), the “Cluster of Excellence Macromolecular Complexes” (3 rooms) and the “Central Infrastructure Center” (6 lecture rooms, 5 meeting rooms, 5 syndicate rooms).

Crestron CP2E and MC2E processors are the brain of the complete integrated AV solution. The 2-Series control systems are unmatched for power, performance and scalability, providing the ideal choice for the university. The processors allow Ethernet connection for control of video projectors, plasma displays, switchers, DVD players, screens and lifts.

Faculty and staff can control the AV sources through TPS-6LB-T and TPMC-V24 touch screens which are placed in custom-made lecterns provided by BFE. User interfaces are ergonomically built into the lectern panels. The screen design is programmed according to the university’s requirements.

Integrated in each lectern is a Crestron UPX-system (Universal Presentation System), a complete, streamlined AV and digital media presentation solution that puts complete display control in the hands of the presenter, providing independently controllable outputs to the presenter’s touch screen. The presentation system allows annotations to be written directly on the touch screen.

Notebooks can be connected to special Crestron touch screens (Crestron QM-WMC, analog QuickMedia transmission via Cat-cable). Signals are sent to a Crestron matrix (QM-MD16x16) which is installed in a separate room.

The Campus Westend also features Crestron DVPHD, a multi-window video processor that displays high-res computer and high-definition video signals with HDCP, provides a fully-





customizable HD graphics environment, and enables real-time annotation and touch screen control — all in a modular, scalable hardware platform.

The “Central Infrastructure Center” features a special support room in which all media signals used in the three new complexes are joined. Trained staff from the university’s computing center serve the whole Campus Riedberg from the facility.

Crestron RoomView® software provides real-time help desk support designed to deliver a complete facility-wide network control of AV resources.

### Benefits

One benefit of the integrated technology solution is streamlining the troubleshooting process through remote monitoring and management. This helps the school save on resources.

Recording and videoconferencing equipment can be set up centrally, which not only saves costs but also promotes a more flexible use of the existing facilities. Virtually any room can use media technology any time. By using a clever centralized intelligence solution, savings of around half a million Euro were reportedly realized.

### Conclusion

For Goethe-University, the new state-of-the-art media technology infrastructure was an integral part of attracting highly talented young professionals to study in Frankfurt. The technology advancements will help raise the University’s profile in global competition. The university’s extremely high standards in cutting-edge interdisciplinary research are without question reflected in the well-equipped “new media” resources.