

TANDBERG CUSTOMER PROFILE

UHI Millennium
Institute



UHI's partner colleges have students all across the Scottish Highlands and Islands

- **CLIENT:** A partnership of 14 colleges and research institutions using technology to educate people in the Highlands and Islands of northern Scotland
- **ACTION:** Installed 55 TANDBERG video systems, including the TANDBERG 150, 880, 2500, 6000 and Director models as well as the TANDBERG Management Suite (TMS) and TANDBERG Multipoint Control Unit (MCU)
- **RESULT:** Expanded the reach of university-level education to the UK's remotest landscapes and seascapes

"The equipment has been a pleasure to use and an incredible asset to studying in the Highlands and Islands."

PETE TIPLER, PRESIDENT
ORKNEY COLLEGE UHI STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

VIDEO HELPS STUDENTS TRANSCEND LANDSCAPE

The beautiful Highlands and Islands of northern Scotland are a tough domain for a university system. There is no shortage of bright, motivated students. The problem is that they are scattered across mountains, glens, and a broad, windswept expanse of the North Atlantic Ocean.

Fortunately, academia today is a state of mind. Some 6,000 far-flung Highlanders and Islanders are enrolled in UHI Millennium Institute, a partnership of 14 colleges and research institutions that takes higher education to the northernmost reaches of the UK. One of UHI's most powerful delivery tools is a fast-growing network of TANDBERG video communication systems.

"We're so spread out that we barely have a heart," jokes Phil Masterson, the institute's Videoconferencing Coordinator, whose service to far-flung students is, in fact, nothing less than heartfelt.

"The UHI Executive Office is in Inverness," he explains, "but we have important functions in remote areas of Argyll, in the Outer Hebrides, Perth and other places. Our video network is controlled from the Shetland Islands, 130 miles north of the Scottish mainland. That's halfway to Norway."

70 LEARNING CENTERS

And why not? The unifying force of 55 TANDBERG video systems overcomes even the most extreme geography. It allows partner institutions like Inverness College UHI, Perth College UHI and Moray College UHI to plump their course catalogues with video offerings from one another's star lecturers. Popular courses offered over UHI's infrastructure of optical fiber and microwave transmitters include culture, tourism, the environment, local history and business administration. The colleges also rely on UHI to serve 70 small outreach-learning centers across northern Scotland.

The workhorse of UHI's video network is the TANDBERG 880 set-top unit. Also contributing are the desktop TANDBERG 150, the roll-about TANDBERG 2500, the elite TANDBERG 6000 and the TANDBERG Director multimedia presentation system. All are administered centrally from Shetland College UHI, in Lerwick, by way of the web-based TANDBERG Management Suite and a TANDBERG MCU for multipoint meetings.

"Our first-year cultural studies course goes out to 11 sites," says Bob Brandie,

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The versatile TANDBERG 880

UHI's Senior Videoconferencing Technician. "Orkney College UHI is the lead partner, but lecturers in Shetland and Inverness contribute as well. They are very imaginative in making the course interactive. If you take it, you have classmates in Campbeltown (Kintyre), Stornoway (Isle of Lewis), Elgin (Morayshire) and many other places."

SIMPLICITY

When the first dozen video communication systems were rolled out in 1997, they were used primarily for administration. Today, 75 percent of all video communication at UHI is for teaching. Mr. Brandie, who keeps a statistical oversight, says the number of monthly video lessons and meetings has risen from 174 in 2002 to 333 in 2005 -- a near doubling.



Courses in TV and media are in the catalogue

UHI lecturers, students and administrators say the TANDBERG systems are simple to use -- an important factor given the partnership's decentralized structure. Even adult students in remote crofting hamlets or fishing villages have little problem learning to interact by video with their teachers and classmates.

"Part of the evaluation process for students covers their ability to use the document camera or laptop in making a video presentation," says Mr. Brandie. "The competence they gain in videoconferencing is a major plus for them in the job market."

"A THUMBS-UP"

Pete Tipler, a student at Orkney College UHI and president of the UHI Students' Association there, says student groups from the partner colleges use video meetings to coordinate activities. As an educational tool, he says, the TANDBERG network is limited only by the imagination and presentation skills of teachers.

"Overall, I give the facility a thumbs-up," he says. "The equipment has been a pleasure to use and an incredible asset to studying in the Highlands and Islands. With-

out it, the college would certainly struggle to run some of its courses."

Life at Orkney College UHI, moreover, would be a bit less exciting. "Being sensible and mature students," he says, "we often enjoy having a little fun in the lessons -- for example, zooming in on a sheep that often sits outside the window!"



UHI Millennium Institute's Executive Office, Inverness

ABOUT TANDBERG

TANDBERG is a leading global provider of visual communication products and services. The Company has dual headquarters in New York and Norway. TANDBERG designs, develops and markets systems and software for video, voice and data. The Company provides sales, support and value-added services in more than 90 countries worldwide. TANDBERG trades publicly on the Oslo Stock Exchange under the ticker TAA.OL. Please visit www.tandberg.net for more information.

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