

SMART Profile

Queen's School of Business



Al Sedgewick uses one of the SMART Board for Flat-Panel Displays interactive whiteboards, designed by SMART's custom solutions team

Custom Solutions caters to business school's unique needs

At Queen's School of Business, classrooms span the country. Real-time videoconferencing software and custom-designed broadcast studios at the school help professors in Ontario teach business classes to students across Canada.

"The solution we were interested in was different from the off-the-shelf solution that SMART offered," says Al Sedgewick, associate director of videoconference services at Queen's School of Business. "SMART stepped forward and was able to manufacture a solution that fit our needs."

The broadcast studios are now home to two SMART Board™ interactive whiteboards, designed by SMART's Custom Solutions group, which develops a range of touch-enabled interactive products to suit unique customer needs.

Queen's needed a SMART Board interactive whiteboard for its videoconferencing studios that could be mounted onto the school's 26-inch (66 cm) LCD screen and allow faculty to write over digital material while delivering the lecture.

SMART's Custom Solutions team worked with the school to build a SMART Board for Flat-Panel Displays interactive overlay to fit the screen and then designed an adjustable support arm.

"The custom interactive whiteboard offers more flexibility in that we're able to manipulate the angle and pitch of the device, and the height as well," Sedgewick says. "What SMART brought, which we weren't looking for before, is the ability to save files in their altered state and re-post or rebroadcast them at the conclusion of a lecture."

Using DVIT™ (Digital Vision Touch) technology, the product can detect multiple impressions that are being made by a finger or pen. No special pens or tools are required to interact with the display, nor are special materials required on the touch screen, making the image crystal clear.

Queen's School of Business installed its first custom SMART Board interactive whiteboard in the spring of 2005. They had so much success that the school has since purchased another. Queen's partner school, Cornell University's Johnson School of Business, learned about the project and has ordered the identical SMART custom solution.

"All of the courses were immediately affected by the purchase of this device," says Sedgewick. "The first benefit is ease of use; the second is being able to save the changes. We did shortlist SMART and another product, and SMART had more features and functions for our usage."

SMART's Custom Solutions group has designed touch enabled interactive products for research facilities, military applications, emergency response command centers and architectural firms. The group continues to develop innovative new products and stretch the boundaries of current product offerings for customers with specific requirements and individual needs.

"SMART stepped forward and was able to manufacture a solution that fit our needs."

Al Sedgewick,
associate director,
videoconference
services