



Situation

The Beverly Hills EOC is activated when a large scale emergency or city wide planned events occur. It provides the city's Management, Public Information Officers, Operations, Planning and Intelligence, Logistics, and Finance personnel with a gathering area. It is here that they monitor the situation, devise emergency plans and then communicate pertinent public information to the surrounding areas. Prior to the installation, the City of Beverly Hills did not have a permanent EOC causing lengthy setup times and hindering their ability to disseminate information quickly internally and externally.

Solution

Main EOC Room To allow the entire EOC staff to access information quickly and view many sources at once, Spinitar implemented a series of large displays, a projector as well as a high resolution acrylic screen on the front wall of the room. This however, proved to be a bit challenging. As a result of combining different

display manufacturers, the high resolution analog video outputs for the PC's did not work as expected. Spinitar overcame this challenge by working with the client's IT personnel to develop a solution that would allow the system to accurately process the signal on all displays. In addition, in order to meet ADA requirements, the area around displays had to be furred out to create a niche.

By combining multiple routing switchers, Spinitar made all the audio and video sources in the room, including the computer work stations, television tuners, symposium and document camera for annotation purposes and video conferencing sources available for viewing on the displays and projector. The Main EOC also features microphones for speech reinforcement and headphones for listening to all source content.

A control touch panel provides EOC staff the ability to control all available source groups within the EOC room including the computers, satellite, TV/radio,

DVD/VCR and phones. This allows users to route content from their computers to the front room displays and speakers for mass viewing. Users can also route a source to other rooms. This enables dynamic information to be disseminated to the entire EOC staff at once, letting them respond with quick well informed decisions. In addition, the control touch panel allows for all sources to be viewed on a floor plan so staff can see where all sources are located throughout the room. This ensures users select the correct display, speaker, etc. It also allows the user to control the displays, lighting, and volume.

Work Station Area To accommodate the computers and audiovisual equipment, the architecture of the space had to be modified. Such changes included installing a raised computer floor. Computer work stations have the ability to display content onto the large front room displays within the Main EOC Room. This allows for EOC members to communicate important information to the rest of the team quickly and easily.

Operations Area The Operations Area required minimal equipment that could offer a lot in terms of application, annotation and manipulation. As a solution, Spinitar implemented a large display with an interactive overlay. Spinitar also worked with GIS staff to develop proprietary mapping software that leveraged the multi-touch interface and annotation functionality of the product.

Policy Group Conference Room The Policy Group Conference Room is equipped with a video

conferencing system and local control touch panel located in the wall. The touch panel enables staff to route various sources to the display within the room and use the system in conjunction or independently of the EOC. Other technology featured in this room includes a symposium, ceiling speakers, and LCD monitors.

Breakout Room This private meeting room is used when the EOC is activated. It contains one 65" display, a symposium, ceiling speakers, and a wall mounted control system. All of this technology can be used independently, similar to the Policy Room.

Results

The measurable benefit to the client has been the obvious decrease in the activation time from hours to seconds of the EOC system. The upgrades and additions make dispersing information intuitive, quick and efficient. Currently, the audiovisual system installed is being used for a variety of activities, programs and projects designed to enhance the city's preparedness. This includes regular trainings, drills and disaster exercises.



The Policy Group Conference Room