TEST REPORT POLYCOM VSX 7000

GENERAL

The device VSX 7000 is an H.320/H.323 client with optional multi point functionality for up to four users. It has a felicitious design, similar to the audio conference devices of Polycom. The actual device is even more impressing than its representation on pictures.

The VSX 7000 was tested in the VCC in September/October 2004 with software version 7.0.1.

INSTALLATION

The supply of the device went well and without problems. After that the device is quickly operable. Polycom supports the administrators in supplying them with vividly designed connecting diagrams/short references as posters and manuals in PDF form respectively.

The essential settings can be carried out easily. The administrator can define a variety of settings. These can be hidden from the users with the help of a password, giving him (the user) only few adjustment options.

TEST

The device VSX 7000 has a newly designed user interface. The "Look and Feel" of the user interface reminds on the colourful imagery of Windows XP. These colours can be changed with the help of colour schemes.

However, the experienced Polycom user has no trouble finding his/her way through the different menu points because the labelling has not changed.

The remote control of the device has been revised as well. Double key assignment is avoided as far as possible, which is very pleasing on the one hand, but leads to a higher number of keys on the other hand, demanding a higher attention from the user. Unfortunately, the [menu] key was spared out completely. Furthermore, it seems, that not all the new keys have been tested sufficiently, e.g. if the "Display" button Anzeigetaste is pressed after opening a statistic, the camera is adapted to the steering of the receiver beside the actually wanted function.

A very useful feature facilitates the quick discovering of typing errors: the symbol just entered is announced for control purposes.

The display of the camera control is sometimes in German and sometimes in English, according to the menu from which the display is accessed.

Polycom VSX 7000 has had an excellent audio and video quality in all tests. The missing T.120 components are made up for by "Visual Concert". For this the video conference system, a lap top, the network of PCs, the microphone, a beamer have to be connected to the "Visual Concert" device. After the dial up of the conference, the desk top content of the lap top can be sent to the conference participants at a push of a button at the "Visual Concert".

Using "Visual Concert" is very advisable with ISDN connections, however, when using IP connections the additionally required lap top can be used for a second separate data link.
Especially felicitious is the dual monitor emulation, which can display two images of a receiver on a monitor. Beyond this also a real dual monitor use is possible, if two monitors are available. Working with the DFN-MCU (RADVision MCU-100, SW 3.2.38) went without problems and was qualitatively convincing.

**CONCLUSION**

The VSX 7000 is a device of an excellent price-performance ratio of its category.

**Technical Data**

Producer: Polycom
Distributor: MVC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Supported standards</th>
<th>H.320, H.323</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sound coding</strong></td>
<td>G.711, G.722, G.722.1, G.728, G729A, <strong>Siren14</strong> (14 kHz Audio)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Video compression</strong></td>
<td>H.261, H.263, H.263+, H263++, <strong>H264</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Video inputs</strong></td>
<td>integrated camera, 1 S-Video 4 Pin MiniDin (second camera, documentation camera or VCR), 1 composite/RCA (second camera, documentation camera or VCR), 1 DVI/SXGA (1280 x 1024)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Video outputs</strong></td>
<td>1 main monitor output (MiniDin, S-Video), 1 main monitor (RCA/composite), 1 second monitor (S-Video), 1 second monitor (RCA/composite), 1 second graphic display (VGA: 640x480)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bandwidth</strong></td>
<td>IP: max. <strong>2 Mbps</strong>; ISDN: max. <strong>2 Mbps</strong></td>
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Thanks to Polycom und MVC for supplying the test.