

## SUPA (Scottish Universities Physics Alliance)

Enabling 1,200 physicists to collaborate over video - anytime, anywhere



### The Challenge

Bring together 1,200 physicists from multiple distributed University campuses for teaching and learning



### The Solution

Custom built V-Room hardware at each site and Vscene video collaboration platform.



### The Results

“Our school simply couldn’t function without it! We are now keen to use Vscene more.”

## The Client

SUPA is a strategic alliance of eight physics schools with a shared strategy for research, made up of The Universities of Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Heriot-Watt, St Andrews, Strathclyde and West of Scotland.

SUPA recognised that providing face-to-face taught teaching within each campus was both unfeasible and uneconomical.

Due to the increase in usage of videoconferencing, SUPA also required the ability to run parallel classes and find a solution that could be accessed by everyone, on desktop or mobile device. Staff wanted the flexibility and the ability for synchronised collaboration and asynchronised learning. Their original video conferencing installation could not support these requirements.

**SUPA required a quality, cost-effective solution that could be accessed by anyone, anywhere.**

## The Solution

The solution was to have custom built video conference rooms at each of the eight SUPA institutions, allowing face-to-face style classes, thereby sharing the teaching load and achieving critical mass.

Each room was designed and fitted out with Ajenta’s V-Room system hardware, providing 4K resolution over dual cameras as well as visualisers and smart boards.

The Vscene platform allows effortless video collaboration between the geographically dispersed community of 1,200 physicists for learning and teaching throughout Scotland.

**It was critical that Ajenta provided the highest quality technology in each room to ensure SUPA could maintain a natural, immersive learning experience for all its students and lecturers.**





## Increased Equity

The SUPA program consists of over 50 courses, corresponding to over 800 hours of lectures delivered annually via Vscene and V-Room hardware.



## Disruption Minimalised

During campus closures due to adverse weather, students can access HD recorded lectures, ensuring limited disruption to their learning.



## Cost Effective

Delivering lectures and virtual events remotely using Vscene has significantly reduced travel time and operational costs for students and lecturers.



## Client Q&A

### What were your main priorities when sourcing a solution?

We considered cost, reliability, quality of experience, support, ability to schedule classes, recording and low maintenance costs.

### From specification to deployment, how has Ajenta and Vscene performed on expectations?

Ajenta have been very accommodating in helping us to find the best solution for our specific needs - needs which occasionally changed as our thinking developed. We were already using Vscene with the previous system, but we are now able to benefit from more of its capabilities than before.

### Can you outline the main tangible benefits so far from using the solution?

The significant upgrade in resolution of video, along with much higher content channel frame rate provide a much better user experience. Some of the previous maintenance contracts were more expensive than the running costs. Also, IT support at the Universities have reported the new system requires less effort to maintain.

### Do you have plans to extend the use of Vscene?

We are now keen to use Vscene more - both by utilising the rooms more (outwith semester time) and by connection to other users not physically in the room.

**Compared to the alternative of having lecturers travel to eight institutions, the benefits of Vscene are so great that the school simply couldn't function without it!**

Dr Christian Killow, Graduate School Co-ordinator,  
SUPA, University of Glasgow

