

SECTION H:

Video Conferencing Equipment Manufacturers

This section, compiled by *AV Magazine* in Spring 2002, lists video conferencing systems available from the main manufacturers. Although some details will change, it gives contacts for each manufacturer as well as an indication of the range of systems available.



Model	Type	Standards supported	Display	Transmission rates	Built-in MCU	Price guide (ex VAT)
AETHRA • 01924 423331 • www.liesegang.co.uk, www.aethra.com						
SDV-9200	Desktop kit	Includes H.320, H.323, H.261, T.120, G.711, G.722, G.728	Operates via PC monitor	H.320: up to 128kbps/ H.323: up to 768kbps	No	£795 (list)
Maia, Maia 384	Portable all-in-one	Includes H.320, H.261, H.263, H.243, T.120, G.711, G.722, G.728	Built-in 6in LCD monitor	H.320: up to 384kbps (depending on model)	No	From £1,995 (list)
Maia Top	Portable all-in-one	Includes H.320, H.261, H.263, H.243, T.120, G.711, G.722, G.728	Built-in 12in LCD monitor	H.320: up to 384kbps	No	£4,695 (list)
Voyager	Portable all-in-one	Includes H.320, H.261, H.263, H.243, T.120, G.711, G.722, G.728	Built-in 6in LCD monitor	H.320: up to 384kbps	No	£6,795 (list)
Vega	Group (set-top)	Includes H.320, H.261, H.263, H.243, T.120, G.711, G.722, G.728	Single monitor	H.320: up to 384kbps	No	POA
Vega 2	Group (set-top)	Includes H.320, H.323, H.261, H.263+, H.243, T.120, G.711, G.722, G.728, G.723	Single/dual monitor	H.320: up to 512kbps/ H.323: up to 768kbps	No	From £3,795 (list)
Nova	Group (rollabout)	Includes H.320, H.323, H.261, H.263, H.243, T.120, G.711, G.722, G.728, G.723	Single monitor	H.320: up to 512kbps/ H.323: up to 768kbps	Yes	£7,479 (list)
Pleiadi range	Group (rollabout)	Includes H.320, H.323, H.261, H.263, H.243, T.120, G.711, G.722, G.728	Single/dual monitor	H.320: up to 512kbps/ H.323: up to 768kbps	Yes	POA
Supernova	Group (rollabout)	Includes H.320, H.323, H.261, H.263, H.243, H.221, T.120, G.711, G.722, G.728	Dual monitor	H.320: up to 512kbps/ H.323: up to 768kbps	Yes	£46,995 (list)

Aethra also markets a video codec and its MCU 8800 product for multi-point conferencing.

AVISTAR • 020 7246 8700 • www.avistar.com

Networked video system	Desktop/group	Includes supports for H.320 and H.323	-	-	-	POA
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Networked solutions providing claimed 'TV quality' local conferencing and external conferencing. Extensive range of hardware and software to meet all clients' needs. Turnkey solution services available.

CABLETIME • 01635 35111 • www.cabletime.com

MediaStar set-top	Desktop/compliance	Includes H.320, H.323 and T.120	-	-	-	Prices start from under £1,000 per user for Starter Pack
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MediaStar is a dual-function video conferencing and multi-channel video distribution solution. Each MediaStar hub can cater for up to 64 users and up to 64,000 participants can be accommodated across a multiple configuration of hubs. A MediaStar Starter Pack is also available which provides desktop video conferencing and multi-channel digital transmission system for up to eight users.

CANON • 01483 776060 • www.canon.co.uk

CanoMedia	Desktop	Includes H.320, H.261, G.711, G.728	Via PC monitor	H.320: 112-128kbps	No	POA
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Canon also manufactures the VC-C4 Web cam which is designed for video conferencing, webcasting and monitoring applications.

GENTNER • +49 911 955159-0 • www.gentner.com

V-There 2000	Group	H.323, H.261, H.261 Annex D, H.263, H.281, T.120, G.711, G.722, G.728, G.723.1, 802.11b	-	H.323: up to 768kbps	No	US\$5,495 (list)
V-There 2001	Group	H.320, H.323, H.261, H.261 Annex D, H.263, H.281, T.120, G.711, G.722, G.728, 802.11b	-	H.320: up to 128kbps/ H.323: up to 768kbps	No	US\$5,995 (list)

V:There 2200	Group	H.320, H.323, H.261, H.261 Annex D, H.263, H.281, T.120, G.711, G.722, G.728, 802.11b	-	H.320: up to 384kbps/ H.323: up to 768kbps	No	US\$7,495 (list)
Vulink 322	Group	H.320, H.323, H.261, H.261 Annex D, H.263, H.281, T.120, G.711, G.722, G.728	-	H.320: up to 128kbps/ H.323: up to 384kbps	No	US\$4,799 (list)
Vulink 326	Group	H.320, H.323, H.261, H.261 Annex D, H.263, H.281, T.120, G.711, G.722, G.728	-	H.320: up to 384kbps/ H.323: up to 384kbps	No	US\$6,299 (list)

IMAGECOM • 01628 688720 • www.imagecom.co.uk

H.320 systems	-	H.320, H.263, H.261, H.230, H.221, H.242, H.281, H.244, H.331, T.120, G.728, G.722, G.711	-	56kbps to 2.048Mbps, up to 384kbps ISDN	No	£3,079 to £7,900 (end-user price - may vary with options)
H.323 systems	-	H.323, H.245, H.261, H.225, H.263, G.711, G.729, Q931, RAS	-	56kbps to 2.048Mbps	No	£3,307 (end-user price)
Remote Video Expertise (RVE) systems	-	H.320, H.263, H.261, H.230, H.221, H.242, H.244, H.331, T.120, G.728, G.711, G.722	-	Up to 384kbps ISDN	No	From £4,843 (Expert), from £6,847 (Field), from £13,320 (Wireless). All prices end-user

ImageCom is also a supplier of codecs.

MOTION MEDIA • 01454 313444 • www.motionmedia.co.uk

mm225	Desktop videophone	H.320, H.324, H.261, H.263, H.281, T.120, G.711, G.722, G.728, G.723.1	Integral 5in LCD screen		No	POA
mm120	Group (set-top)	H.320, H.261, H.263, G.711, G.722, G.728	Via TV monitor		No	POA

POLYCOM & PICTURETEL • 00800 00334455 • www.polycom.com

ViewStation SP384	Group	H.320, H.323, H.261 Annex D, H.263+, H.221, H.281, T.120, G.728, G.722, G.711, Polyspan Acoustic Plus 716	Single monitor	H.320: 64-384kbps/ H.323: 64-768kbps	No	Around £4,759
ViewStation 128	Group	H.320, H.323, H.261 Annex D, H.263+, H.221, H.281, T.120, G.728, G.722, G.711, Polyspan Acoustic Plus 716	Single monitor	H.320: 56-128kbps/ H.323: 56-768kbps	No	Around £3,179
ViewStation MP	Group	H.320, H.323, H.261 Annex D, H.263+, H.221, T.120, G.728, G.722, G.711, Polyspan Acoustic Plus 716	Dual monitor	H.320: 56-512kbps/ H.323: 64-768kbps	Yes	Around £9,499
ViewStation FX	Group	H.320, H.323, H.261 Annex D, H.263+, H.221, H.281, T.120, G.728, G.722, G.711, Polyspan Acoustic Plus 716	Dual monitor	H.320: up to 2Mbps/ H.323: up to 2Mbps	Yes	From £11,790
ViaVideo	Desktop	H.323, H.261, H.263, H.263+, G.711, G.722, G.728	Plugs into PC's USB port	H.323: 64-384kbps	No	Around £400
IPower 900	Group	H.320, H.323, H.261, H.263, H.263+, H.281, H.243, H.221, T.120, G.711, G.722, G.723.1, G.728, PT716plus, PT724, Siren 14	Dual monitor	H.320: up to 512kbps/ H.323: up to 2Mbps	Yes	From £8,950
IPower 600	Group	H.320, H.323, H.261, H.263, H.263+, H.221, H.281, H.243, T.120, G.711, G.722, G.723.1, G.728, PT716plus, PT724, Siren 14	Dual monitor	H.320: up to 512kbps/ H.323: up to 768kbps	No	From £5,500

Also available from Polycom is the VS4000 video conferencing codec for custom installations. The product handles up to 2Mbps network speeds with built-in 10/100 Ethernet hub and PRI, V.35 and LAN options.

SAVILLE AUDIO VISUAL • 01904 782782 • www.saville-av.com

System 2000 Video-conference	Group	H.320, H.323, H.261, H.263, H.221, H.242, H.230, H.243, H.281, G.711, G.722, G.728, T.120	50in or 42in plasma panel or LCD	64-384kbps (up to 768kbps option)	Yes	£18,000 to £22,000 complete
ShowStar Video-conference	Group	H.320, H.323, H.261, H.263, H.221, H.242, H.230, H.243, H.281, G.711, G.722, G.728, T.120	70in XGA rear-projection display	64-384kbps (up to 768kbps option)	Yes	£25,000 to £30,000 installed

System 2000 is a mobile system in a cabinet/trolley and ShowStar is a fully integrated modular system (fully installed). They include Tandberg codec/camera systems plus video/PC/DVD/CD and voice reinforcement with single-touch controller.

SMARTCOMM • 01494 471912 • www.smartcomm.co.uk

ViewCall Station	Group	Includes H.320, H.323	Plasma panel	-	Yes	POA
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SONY • 01932 816290 • www.sonyvideo conference.com

PCS-1600P	Set-top	H.320, H.323, H.261, H.263, H.263+, H.221, H.281, H.243, H.231, T.120, G.711, G.722, G.722.1, G.728	As per customer requirement	H.320: up to 384kbps/ H.323: up to 1Mbps	Available as an option	£3,995
PCS-6000P	Group	H.320, H.323, H.261, H.263, H.263+, H.221, H.281, H.243, H.231, T.120, G.711, G.722, G.722.1, G.728	As per customer requirement	H.320: up to 2Mbps/ H.323: up to 2Mbps	Yes	£13,100

TANDBERG • 01784 492234 • www.tandberg.net

8000	Group	H.320, H.323, H.261, H.263, H.263+, H.263++, H.331, H.233, H.234, H.243, H.281, H.231, T.120, G.711, G.722, G.722.1, G.728	Two 50in widescreen plasma monitors	H.320: up to 2Mbps/ H.323: up to 3Mbps	Yes	£43,950
7000	Group	H.320, H.323, H.261, H.263, H.263+, H.263++, H.331, H.233, H.234, H.243, H.281, H.231, T.120, G.711, G.722, G.722.1, G.728	Two 40in plasma monitors	H.320: up to 2Mbps/ H.323: up to 3Mbps	Yes	From £29,950
6000	Group	H.320, H.323, H.261, H.263, H.263+, H.263++, H.331, H.233, H.234, H.243, H.281, H.231, T.120, G.711, G.722, G.722.1, G.728	Two 32in/33in monitors	H.320: up to 2Mbps/ H.323: up to 3Mbps	Yes	From £23,150
2500	Group	H.320, H.323, H.261, H.263, H.263+, H.263++, H.221, H.281, H.231, H.243, H.233, H.234, H.331, T.120, G.711, G.722, G.722.1, G.728	Single/dual monitor (29in/37in PAL)	H.320: up to 384kbps/ H.323: up to 768kbps	Yes	From £14,250
1000	Small group/desktop	H.320, H.323, H.261, H.263, H.263+, H.281, H.231, H.243, T.120, G.711, G.722, G.722.1, G.728	Integrated 12.1in LCD screen	H.320: up to 384kbps/ H.323: up to 768kbps	No	From £4,250
880	Group (set-top)	H.320, H.323, H.261, H.263, H.263+, H.263++, H.331, H.233, H.234, H.243, H.281, H.231, T.120, G.711, G.722, G.722.1, G.728	Via monitor (set-top unit has 802.11b wireless compliance)	H.320: up to 384kbps/ H.323: up to 768kbps	Yes	From £6,650
500	Group (set-top)	H.320, H.323, H.261, H.263, H.263+, H.233, H.234, H.243, H.281, H.231, T.120, G.711, G.722, G.722.1, G.728	Via monitor	H.320: up to 384kbps/ H.323: up to 768kbps	No	From £3,950

VCON • 01628 829555 • www.vcon.com

Escort	Desktop	H.323, H.261, H.263, H.281, H.243, T.120, G.728, G.711, G.722, G.723.1	Via PC monitor	H.323: up to 1.5Mbps	No	POA
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Cruiser Series (150, 384 & Executive models)	Desktop	H.320, H.323, H.261, H.263, H.281, H.243, T.120, G.728, G.711, G.722, G.723.1	Via PC monitor	H.320: up to 128kbps (150), up to 384kbps (384 & Executive)/ H.323: up to 1.5Mbps (all models)	No	POA
ViGO Series (Standard, Professional & Executive models)	Desktop USB appliance	H.323, H.261, H.263, T.120, G.711, G.728, G.722, G.723.1	Via laptop or PC monitor	H.323: up to 384kbps (Standard), up to 1.5Mbps (Professional & Executive)	No	POA
Falcon IP Series (Models 1 & 3)	Group (set-top system)	H.320, H.323, H.261, H.263, H.281, H.243, H.221, T.120, G.711, G.722, G.728	Supports dual TV monitors	H.320: up to 128kbps (Model 1), up to 384kbps (Model 3)/ H.323: up to 512kbps (both models)	No	POA
MediaConnect 6000 Series (Models 1 & 3)	Group (compact system)	H.320, H.323, H.261, H.263, H.224, H.281, H.243, H.221, T.120, G.711, G.728, G.722, G.723.1	Model 1 supports TV + SVGA/ Model 3 supports dual TV + SVGA	H.320: up to 128kbps (Model 1), up to 384kbps (Model 3)/ H.323: up to 1.5Mbps (both models)	No	POA
MediaConnect 6000 Pro Series (Models 1 & 3)	Group (rollabout system)	H.320, H.323, H.261, H.263, H.224, H.281, H.243, H.221, T.120, G.711, G.728, G.722, G.723.1	Model 1 supports TV + SVGA/ Model 3 supports dual TV + SVGA	H.320: up to 128kbps (Model 1), up to 384kbps (Model 3)/ H.323: up to 1.5Mbps (both models)	No	POA
MediaConnect 8000 Series (Models 1 & 3)	Group (compact system)	H.320, H.323, H.261, H.263, H.224, H.281, H.243, H.221, T.120, G.711, G.728, G.722, G.723.1	Model 1 supports TV + SVGA/ Model 3 supports dual TV + SVGA	H.320: up to 128kbps (Model 1), up to 384kbps (Model 3)/ H.323: up to 1.5Mbps (both models)	No	POA
MediaConnect 8000 Pro Series (Models 1 & 3)	Group (rollabout system)	H.320, H.323, H.261, H.263, H.224, H.281, H.243, H.221, T.120, G.711, G.728, G.722, G.723.1	Model 1 supports TV + SVGA/ Model 3 supports dual TV + SVGA	H.320: up to 128kbps (Model 1), up to 384kbps (Model 3)/ H.323: up to 1.5Mbps (both models)	No	POA
MediaConnect 9000 Series (Models 1 & 3)	Group (compact system)	H.320, H.323, H.261, H.263, H.224, H.281, H.243, H.221, T.120, G.711, G.728, G.722, G.723.1	Model 1 supports TV + SVGA/ Model 3 supports dual TV + SVGA	H.320: up to 128kbps (Model 1), up to 384kbps (Model 3)/ H.323: up to 1.5Mbps (both models)	Embedded MCU option	POA
Media Connect 9000 Pro Series (Models 1 & 3)/	Group (rollabout system) option	H.320, H.323, H.261, H.263, H.224, H.281, H.243, H.221, G.723.1	Model 1 supports TV + SVGA/ Model 3 supports dual TV + SVGA	H.320: up to 128kbps (Model 1), up to 384kbps (Model 3)/ G.728, G.722, H.323: up to 1.5Mbps (both models)	Embedded MCU + SVGA/	POA 384kbps (Model

VCON models also feature the company's Interactive Multicast technology which enables streaming video and interactive conferencing. Other conferencing products in the VCON portfolio include Media Xchange Manager (MXM), VCON Conference Bridge, and VCON Development Kit (VDK).

VISION • 01491 414430 • www.rsisystems.com

MediaPro 384MP	Desktop & group	H.320, H.323, H.261, H.263, H.281, H.221, H.230, H.242, H.243, H.224, T.120, G.728, G.711, G.722	-	H.320: up to 384kbps	Includes multi-point software	POA
MediaPro 384DP	Desktop & group	H.320, H.323, H.261, H.263, H.281, H.221, H.230, H.242, H.243, H.224, T.120, G.728, G.711, G.722	-	H.320: up to 384kbps	No	POA

MediaPro 384LT	Portable	H.320, H.323, H.261, H.263, H.281, H.221, H.230, H.242, H.243, H.224, T.120, G.728, G.711, G.722	Via laptop	H.320: up to 384kbps	No	POA
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Vision also markets the MediaPro 384 V.35 model.

VIVITAR • 01793 526211 • www.vivitar.co.uk

ViviCom Director 34	Group	H.320, H.261, H.263, H.281, H.221, H.230, H.242, H.243, H.224, T.120, G.711, G.722, G.728	34in monitor	H.320: up to 384kbps	Yes	POA
ViviCom Director 29	Group	H.320, H.261, H.263, H.281, H.221, H.230, H.242, H.243, T.120, H.224, G.711, G.722, G.728	29in monitor	H.320: up to 384kbps	Yes	POA
Model	Type	Standards supported	Display	Transmission rates	Built-in MCU	Price guide (ex VAT)
ViviCom Executive 34	Group	H.320, H.261, H.263, G.711, G.728	34in monitor	H.320: up to 128kbps	No	POA
ViviCom Executive 29	Group	H.320, H.261, H.263, G.711, G.728	29in monitor	H.320: up to 128kbps	No	POA
VP-128 videophone	Desktop	H.320, H.321, H.242, H.243, H.261, H.263, G.711, G.728	Integral LCD screen	H.320: up to 128kbps	No	POA

VTEL • +1 512 821 7000 • www.vtel.com

Galaxy SL	Group (rollabout)	Includes H.320, H.323, H.261, H.263, T.120, G.722, G.711, G.728	Single/dual monitor	56-768kbps	No	POA
Galaxy RL	Group (rollabout)	Includes H.320, H.323, H.261, H.263, T.120, G.722, G.711, G.728	Single/dual monitor	56-768kbps	No	POA
Galaxy XL	Group (rollabout)	Includes H.320, H.323, H.261, H.263, T.120, G.722, G.711, G.728	Single/dual monitor	56-768kbps	No	POA

VTEL also offers the Galaxy PL, the Galaxy platform ready for integration into custom environments.

ZYDACRON • 0118 978 8220 • www.zydacron.co.uk

OnWAN/ Ensemble family kits	Desktop	Range includes H.320, H.323 and H.320/H.323-based models	via PC monitor	Up to 384kbps ISDN & up to 768kbps IP (depending on model)	No	POA
comCenter	Group	Includes H.320, H.323, H.261, H.263, T.120, G.711, G.722, G.728	29in monitor	Up to 384kbps	No	POA
comStation	Group	Includes H.320, H.323, H.321, H.261, H.263, G.711, G.722, G.728	Single/dual monitor	56-512kbps ISDN & up to 768kbps IP	No	POA
comCenter 3000i	Group	Includes H.320, H.323, H.261, H.263, H.321, T.120, G.711, G.722, G.728	Self-contained rearpro system	Up to 512kbps ISDN & up to 768kbps IP	No	POA
comCenter Exec	Group	Includes H.320, H.323, H.261, H.263, T.120, G.711, G.728, G.722, G.723	Dual monitor	Up to 512kbps ISDN & up to 768kbps IP	No	POA

Zydacron is also a source of codecs and development kits.

NOTES ON MAIN STANDARDS

- The H.320 standard is for ISDN conferencing and the H.323 standard is for TCP/IP-based conferencing over LANs, WANs and the Internet
- H.261 and H.263 are video codec standards
- H.221 defines frame transmission structure
- H.231 and H.243 refer to MCU compatibility and chair control
- H.281 governs local and remote camera control
- T.120 is the data conferencing standard
- G.711, G.722, G.723 and G.728 are audio standards