Virgin Atlantic
United Kingdom

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Virgin Atlantic's newest training facility, 'The Base' at the Manor Royal Estate in Crawley, West Sussex, has been recently upgraded with Crestron's control processors and wall-mounted touchpanels to provide a complete room and audio/video control solution.

The first phase of The Base to be completed involved the construction of 16 brand new state-of-the-art training rooms. At this new purpose-built center, Virgin Atlantic provides training for all personnel from pilots to stewards. Virgin Atlantic wanted the benefit of local AV expertise, so Bugle AV of Crawley worked with the facilities department at Virgin and architect PDP to design a solution that could meet the training room needs of one of the biggest names in air transportation.

All the rooms with full controls feature Crestron's MP2E processors and CT-1000 wall-mounted touchpanels.

To meet the objective, Bugle had to ensure that the AV systems previously installed were sophisticated enough to provide the first-class training facilities required of a multinational company, yet had ease-of-use for both the more technically adept. As Andy Mussell, Project Manager at Bugle AV, explains, this is not as difficult as it once might have been: With the rapid change in display technology, what once was a purely functional training or meeting room can be transformed into a fully controllable and active smart-room incorporating projection, display and audio, all controlled with the touch of a button.

All rooms with full controls feature Crestron's MP2E processors and CT-1000 wall-mounted touchpanels. The MP2E is a cost-effective processor solution for a complete room control and audio/video switch solution. It features the powerful 2-Series control engine with its revolutionary dual-bus architecture at its core, and offers 4MB of onboard Flash memory. It also adds connectivity via a 10/100 Ethernet Port as well as additional features that include Dynamic/Static IP addressing, Full Duplex, TCP/IP, UDP/IP and Multi-Socket connectivity.

The MP2E also has several built-in features to provide added performance, including a web server powered by Crestron e-Control and a POP3 e-mail server to automatically send emails to alert technical personnel of important room/equipment status. The MP2E is also fully compatible with all e-Control Power Applications.

A great complement to the MP2E is Crestron's RoomView which provides the diagnostics, scheduling and equipment status in individual rooms and throughout the entire complex. RoomView also allows the user to monitor and view equipment power status at any location within the Base.