

Amsterdam, 11 November 2005

TF-VVC HOLDS WORKSHOP ON HIGH-QUALITY VIDEO OVER IP

What it is, what it's good for and what you need

SURFnet hosted the second TERENA high-quality workshop on the production of high-quality video for transmission over the Internet on 7 November 2005 in Utrecht, Netherlands. The workshop was organised by TERENA and SURFnet as part of one of the deliverables of the TERENA Task Force on Voice, Video and Collaboration, TF-VVC.

High-quality video is important in arts and culture and in many fields of scientific research, such as astronomy. It is vital for applications in such fields as medicine, where, for example, video is broadcast during an operation and a second opinion can be sought from a specialist in a remote location.

In the morning, Kazunori Sugiura of the WIDE project in Japan and one of the main software developers presented DVTS, software for running DV (digital video) over IP, using laptops and cheap miniDV cameras. He covered the history, its present implementations and future developments. After the presentation (which used the technology that was talked about), the participants had the chance to learn hands-on how to set up high-quality video conferences using DVTS.

In the afternoon Egon Verharen of SURFnet presented HD (high definition) video over IP: what it is, what it's good for and what you need. He highlighted some lessons learned from executing both compressed HD and uncompressed HD over IP networks. Again, there was a hands-on session; this time participants could learn how to send compressed HD over IP using freeware software and relatively cheap HD cameras and computers.

Jesus Alcobar of i2CAT in Barcelona presented the HD wiki, the main information source for all things HD over IP: <http://hdwiki.i2cat.net/>

The workshop was wrapped up by discussing possibilities of collaboration, such as participation in a European project (Call 41) and activities for the TERENA Task Force TF-VVC:

<http://www.terena.nl/tech/task-forces/tf-vvc/>

Seventeen participants from national research and education networks and from universities attended the one-day event. Participants noted that what was considered high quality during the first workshop in 2001, is considered usual quality today:

<http://www.terena.nl/tech/archive/tf-stream/high-quality.pdf>

For more information about the workshop and the TF-VVC activity area on high-end/quality systems, please see:

<http://www.terena.nl/tech/task-forces/tf-vvc/H/>

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