

Audio Video Guide

To get the most out of your Marratech® meeting experience, you need the right peripherals for audio and video. Marratech regularly tests new products for compatibility with its collaborative solutions.

Recent tests of current peripheral products yielded the recommendations shown here. We include results for Windows, Linux, and Mac OS X systems followed by four suggested packages for conference room use.

Windows and Linux

Marratech supports various versions of Windows and select distributions of Linux when run on Intel hardware. For desktop use, testing has shown that the Logitech QuickCam Pro 4000 makes an excellent video capture device while the Logitech QuickCam for Notebooks Pro works well on Intel-based notebooks. The Plantronics “.audio 60” analog headset makes a good audio device for both desktop and laptop use. Field experience has shown that USB headsets cause problems on several Intel-based system boards and customers should avoid the use of USB for now.



Logitech QuickCam Pro 4000
(www.logitech.com)



Logitech QuickCam for Notebooks Pro (www.logitech.com)



Analog Headset
Plantronics .audio 60 (www.plantronics.com)

Mac OS X

For Mac OS X users, the preferred camera is an Apple iSight. The iSight comes with adapters that make it a suitable choice for both desktop and laptop installations.

Macs support a wide array of audio devices. The Plantronics DSP-300 and DSP-400 USB headsets offer excellent performance at a reasonable price. Users can also look to the Plantronics .audio 60 analog headset. However, all analog headsets require an iMic, the analog-to-USB adapter from Griffin Technologies.

PowerBook users can also consider the built-in microphone combined with a pair of low-cost headphones such as the ear buds shipped with an Apple iPod.



Web Camera
Apple iSight (www.apple.com)



USB Headset
Plantronics DSP-300
Plantronics DSP-400 (www.plantronics.com)



Analog Headset
Plantronics .audio 60 (www.plantronics.com)



Analog-to-USB
Adapter Griffin iMic (www.griffintechnology.com)



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Conference Rooms

While the future of Internet-based collaboration is desktop and laptop-based, many customers still have a need to enable local and remote conference room facilities. When equipping these rooms, customers should consider three issues. These are video projection, video capture, and audio.

Conference rooms require a video projection system appropriate to the size of the room and the capabilities of the computer used. Projector selection has no direct bearing on Marratech functionality. The objective with any projector is the "on wall" display of the whiteboard and other meeting participants.

The selection of video capture and room audio will affect Marratech functionality and requires more thought. Below are four packages, two for Windows, and two for Mac, which worked well in testing. The first package in each group represents an optimal solution while the second package provides good performance for those on a budget.

PC Package 1

The optimal PC-based package consists of an analog camera, like the Sony EVI-D100, connected to a PC through a Belkin Hi-Speed USB 2.0 DVD Creator converter. An AccuMic II provides acoustic echo cancellation (AEC) microphone support while a Phonic SEp 206 supplies audio output.



Video Cameras
Sony EVI-D100 (shown) (www.sony.com), or Canon VC C4 (www.canon.com)



USB Adapter
Belkin Hi-Speed USB 2.0 DVD Creator (F5U228) (www.belkin.com)



AEC Microphone
Clear One AccuMic II (www.clearone.com)



Powered Speaker
Phonic SEp 206 (www.phonic.com)

PC Package 2

A lower-cost package uses a Logitech QuickCam Sphere or Orbit camera for video capture. The DUET Personal Speaker Phone is a combined microphone and speaker which is easily connect with one USB cable.



Video Cameras
QuickCam Sphere, or Quick-Cam Orbit (shown) (www.logitech.com)



DUET Personal Speaker Phone (www.phnxaudio.com)



Mac Package 1

An optimal package for a Mac-based conference room starts with a Sony EVI-D100 or Canon VC C4 analog camera connected to the Mac through a Pinnacle Systems Studio Moviebox DV (version 9) FireWire adapter. An AccuMic II from Clear One Communications connected to the Mac through a Griffin Technologies iMic provides AEC audio capture. A Phonic SEp 206 powered speaker provides audio output.



Video Cameras
Sony EVI-D100 (shown) (www.sony.com), or Canon VC C4 (www.canon.com)



FireWire Adapter
Pinnacle Systems Studio Movie Box DV version 9 (www.pinnaclesys.com)



AEC Microphone
ClearOne AccuMic II (www.clearone.com)



USB Adapter
Griffin Technologies iMic (www.griffintechology.com)



Powered Speaker
Phonic SEp 206 (www.phonic.com)

Mac Package 2

A budget-minded package for a Mac-based conference room starts with an Apple iSight camera. The DUET Personal Speaker Phone is a combined microphone and speaker which is easily connect with one USB cable.



Video Camera
Apple iSight (www.apple.com)



DUET Personal Speaker Phone
(www.phnxaudio.com)



USB Adapter
Griffin Technologies iMic (www.griffintechology.com)

For the latest information on current audio and video recommendations, visit Marratech on the web at: <http://www.marratech.com>

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