“DURING THE PANDEMIC, CRESTRON FLEX WITH MICROSOFT TEAMS HAS MADE OUR ORGANIZATION MORE RESILIENT THAN EVER BY ALLOWING US TO STAY CONNECTED AND CONTINUE TO WORK ON OUR PRODUCTS WHETHER IN A HYBRID OR NON-HYBRID SETTING.”

Nathan Hunter
Senior Manager, IT Collaboration
Spectrum Brands
THE CHALLENGE

As a leading global manufacturer, Spectrum Brands wanted to update their meeting room technology with intuitive, easy-to-use solutions in order to elevate the workplace experience for employees. Nathan Hunter, Senior Manager, IT Collaboration at Spectrum Brands and his team set out to find a robust and reliable collaboration platform that would bring their global offices together and facilitate collaboration on a grand scale.

THE SOLUTION

With an existing Microsoft Teams® infrastructure, AV systems integrator Spinitar was confident that Crestron Flex would be the perfect solution to implement throughout Spectrum Brands’ offices. The added functionality of Crestron XiO Cloud® Service would provide simplified remote management and make deployment of future systems easier than ever before. While this project began before the pandemic, Crestron Flex and Microsoft Teams have been instrumental in Spectrum Brands’ transition to remote work and keeping their teams connected.

“AFTER OUR SITE VISIT AT SPECTRUM BRANDS, WE KNEW THAT CRESTRON FLEX WOULD BE ABLE TO SUPPORT THE VERSATILITY OF THE MEETING SPACES, WHILE MAINTAINING A CONSISTENT USER EXPERIENCE FOR OUR CLIENTS.”

Tim McCarthy
Account Manager,
Spinitar
THE TECHNOLOGY

The conference rooms at Spectrum Brands span from small huddle rooms to large, combinable spaces. The Crestron Flex portfolio was able to support their needs in all of these spaces with tailored solutions that met their varying sound and video criteria. The Flex solutions would also deliver a clean room design and simpler experience for the employees. For the smaller huddle rooms, Crestron B-Series smart soundbars provide an integrated camera that puts all participants in optimal view and a sound quality that is unmatched. "We have standardized on Crestron B-Series in all of our small rooms and huddle spaces because of the superb audio experience," explains Hunter. "It provides a crisp and clean sound that makes the virtual participants sound like they are in the same room." In the larger combinable spaces, Crestron C-Series is combined with Saros® in-ceiling speakers and Crestron occupancy sensors. These meeting rooms can be used individually or combined to create a space suited for even larger groups.

From their laptop at home or from the Crestron touch screen in a meeting room, Crestron Flex and Microsoft Teams has delivered a consistent user experience for every way that Spectrum Brands employees choose to join a meeting. Crestron has transformed and modernized their spaces by making them more device-specific, creating a simple and consistent look for employees while meeting the demands of each space.

With XiO Cloud, Hunter and his team can provide remote assistance to get the rooms up and running without being on-site. This has been especially beneficial during COVID, as a lot of their staff are working remotely. "When an employee has to sit and wait for an issue to be resolved, that’s time and productivity being wasted," explains Hunter. "XiO Cloud has helped eliminate those situations across our offices."

"WE WANTED TO CREATE MEETING ROOMS THAT OUR EMPLOYEES COULD SIMPLY WALK IN AND START THEIR MEETING WITHOUT ANY DIFFICULTIES. FROM MY EXPERIENCE UTILIZING CRESTRON, I KNEW IT WOULD PROVIDE A SOLID PLATFORM WITH THE SINGLE-TOUCH JOIN THAT WE WERE LOOKING FOR."

Nathan Hunter
Senior Manager, IT Collaboration
Spectrum Brands
The IT Collaboration team is now able to be more proactive in fixing technical issues and get the rooms back to being operational before an employee even enters the room.

To further promote safe and effective collaboration, Spectrum Brands has utilized AirMedia Wireless Presentation for touchless, wireless presentation capabilities that allow employees to use their own personal devices. AirMedia has enhanced the look and feel of the meeting rooms, reducing the number of wires and making it easier for employees to connect to the display. Overall, AirMedia has simplified the presentation experience in these spaces, creating a more engaging environment for meetings with multiple presenters. It has provided seamless transitions, eliminating any disruptive exchanges of passing the connection cable.

**RESULTS**

Once COVID lockdowns were lifted, Spectrum Brands was armed with new technologies from Crestron that helped get their business and workplace back on track. Connectivity across offices has also improved, allowing teams from all over the world to connect on a regular basis and support their brands more effectively than ever before.