

PENNSYLVANIA CONVENTION CENTER EXPANSION

Philadelphia, PA



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Pennsylvania Convention Center spans 20 acres of central Philadelphia real estate, making it the largest single public works project in Pennsylvania history.

Acentech served as technology and acoustics consultants for the 375,000 SF addition to the existing 650,000 SF convention center.

Acentech's IT design included in a robust data network which is modular and scalable to allow speeds up to 10 Gigabits per second to any location in the convention center. Next-generation multimedia switches and routers accommodate anticipated increases in high-speed multimedia and video applications. The sophisticated network transports voice, data, Internet, multimedia, streaming video, audiovisual, digital signage and security traffic throughout the expansion and interconnects with the existing convention center.

Acentech's audiovisual consultants designed a highly flexible multimedia distribution system that includes a network-based digital audio system for speech reinforcement, program audio playback, and centralized recording for 23 new meeting rooms, divisible Terrace Ballroom (pictured to the right) and existing exhibit halls. The audio network interfaces with the main building's analog audio system, supports general purpose paging, and interfaces with the convention center's fire alarm and mass notification system. A fiber optic cabling and matrix switcher supports the distribution of high quality video throughout the meeting and recording rooms. A companion digital signage system includes a three-by-three display matrix in the expansion atrium, as well as multiple way-finding displays on the concourses and event specific displays at the entrances to each meeting room and the Ballroom.

Our acousticians provided specific recommendations for the ceiling, wall and floor finishes and background sound levels in the critical spaces based on their proposed uses. We included guidance on suitable permanent and operable wall systems, and helped the team manage acoustical expectations pertaining to the limitations of the preferred space layout in certain areas.

In the ballrooms we worked closely with the architect to design suitable ceilings to fit the visual intent but not compromise acoustics; the floor and wall treatments in these spaces work well acoustically and complement the aesthetics.

Finally, Acentech analyzed the building structure and provided recommendations to minimize footfall induced vibration in the more sensitive expansion spaces.

Acentech

CONSULTING SERVICES

- Information technology
- Audiovisual systems design
- Architectural acoustics

REFERENCE

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