

University of Copenhagen

State-Of-The-Art Complex

An impressive new addition to the Panum complex within the University of Copenhagen, the Mærsk Tower is 15-stories high, and hosts four auditoriums, 16 classrooms and more than 60 meeting rooms and conference facilities.

While the ground floor is allocated exclusively to education spaces for the 2,500 students, each one of the upper floors is dedicated to the University's research departments, with the impressive conferencing area on the top floor boasting a mixture of room types, available for use by anyone within the University.

The technology installations – designed, specified and installed by AV integrators, Stouenborg and wholly funded by the Mærsk Foundation – are unashamedly state-of-the-art, in keeping with the prestige and global reputation of the University, and providing staff and students with access to the latest technologies to support effective learning and research.

Maximising Occupancy Rates

Managing all the different collaboration, teaching and meeting spaces to ensure maximum occupancy rates, replacing a time-consuming, often inaccurate manual system, as well as showing up-to-date room schedules at a glance, were key objectives for the University.

Implementing a network of digital room booking signs was the obvious solution to avoid valuable time and resources being spent in using paper-based systems, which were time consuming to circulate as well as could be out of date almost as soon as distributed.



With rooms being used from 7am often until late into the evening, it was important to ensure room availability, with a straightforward booking process, was transparent and easy for all room users to access.

Having thoroughly evaluated several options, Reserva Room Signage from ONELAN, was selected as being able to provide the ideal solution for the University. With a lack of any recurring licence renewal fees making it cost-effective over the lifetime of the screen, and flexible on-premise hosting ensuring staff and students' sensitive data was retained internally, Reserva had clear advantages over other solutions.

Critically, as well as having a highly intuitive interface and so avoiding time-consuming training, Reserva dynamically integrates with Scientia's Syllabus Plus timetabling system meaning any last-minute timetabling or room changes are instantly updated for students and lecturers centrally ensuring accurate and up to date information is always displayed.



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This integration also enables students to view key data such as lecture or course name, duration, lecturer and so forth on the room signage, ensuring attendees can be confident they are entering the correct lecture, avoiding any potential time wasting and inevitable frustrations associated with unexpectedly being in the wrong location. Reserva is also utilised for managing non-teaching spaces such as staff meeting rooms. In this case Reserva's integration with Microsoft Exchange synchronises appointments created in Outlook with the schedule displayed on screen beside the room.

Installed Technology

The University of Copenhagen put in place an install programme which now exceeds 90 screens throughout the building installed outside all rooms including the various huddle areas. The screens are all powered via POE (Power Over Ethernet) avoiding any need for additional mains power sockets, cabling or even batteries.

They selected the 10" screen from the Reserva range which are fixed firmly to the wall in portrait mode, and within sealed enclosures for additional security and building aesthetics.

The Reserva Room Signage network is deployed alongside a ONELAN campus communications digital signage network. Rich multimedia content is displayed on wall mounted Panasonic 42" LCD's installed throughout the University and used extensively across the Campus to communicate important information such as conference details, social activities, menu options and similar.

This system is managed using ONELAN's Enterprise CMS platform and a range of Net-Top-Box digital signage players. The University makes special use of ONELAN's recently updated ad-hoc capability which allows non-technical users to log in to very simple webpages which can be used to update text messages, add new content to screens or change the layout being displayed at any time.

Benefits

The University has seen the considerable advantages of using Reserva room signage, freeing up valuable staff time involved with the previous paper-based system, as well as increasing student and staff satisfaction with accurate room allocations, plus maximising the use of all available rooms in the building.



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