

General Recommendation for Visualization Environments

This document is meant to provide an overview of conditions that can affect the effectiveness of your visualization environment.

This document is not meant to replace a site inspection done by a visualization professional. VIZCAN Systems always recommends that a visualization specialist perform a detailed site evaluation prior to placing an order for systems and components.

We want you to have a good experience with your visualization system and are here to help you.

Wall Paint and ceiling tile

Modern projectors have a high lumen output factor. (Generally 1100 –3400 lumens per projector is recommended) Selection of projectors depends on application, functional usage and special characteristics.

In general it is recommended that a VIZ environment incorporate muted colours and flat latex painted wall. This will reduce light-bounce from the screen, off the walls and back at the screen.

Ceiling tiles, if used should also be in muted colours. Some installation have used black tiles which appear to be effective but also serve to make the ceiling appear lower. White tiles should not be used.

Floor covering

Floor covering is an area where some latitude for personal taste is allowed. Carpeting is acceptable as long as the carpets do not create a static electrical build-up. Carpets should also be of a very short matte.

Tile floors are very popular in VIZ environment. Tile should not be glossy and please stay away from checkerboard design as the can detract viewers eyes from the expensive image you are there to visualize.

Wood floor are acceptable for VIZ environments if you stay away from high gloss finishes.

Lighting

The room should be fitted with incandescent pot lighting. The light intensity should be controlled by rheostat. Lighting used during activity on the screen should be directed away from the screen surface.

Door enclosures

Access to the space during screen activity needs to be controlled so as to eliminate light bursts when persons enter the room. This can be achieved with something as simple as a curved curtain inside the doorway (similar to a photographic dark room).

HVAC

HVAC is always a concern in VIZ environments. Even smaller projectors put out a fair amount of BTUs.

Your VIZ vendor should specify the BTUs and recommended AC tonnage before you purchase your system. Make sure that you take into account all devices, not just projectors. "If it puts out heat - count it in."

Electrical:

In the same way as HVAC is important so is amount and quality of electrical power and the placement of power outlets in your space. For example, if projectors are ceiling mounted, it is better to have outlets run up to the ceiling rather than have extension cords run to the floor.

Your VIZ vendor should specify the voltages, amps, watts and phases of all electrical devices before you purchase your system. Make sure that you take into account all devices, not just projectors and computers.

VIZCAN Systems

(last update:) May 10, 2004