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UCLA Installs Barix Instreamer IP Audio Encoders in 42 Classrooms

Automated solution enables lecture recordings and Web-accessible Podcasting

LOS ANGELES, October XX, 2007 — Barix AG, a pioneer in IP-based audio, intercom, control and monitoring, today announced that the UCLA (University of California in Los Angeles) Office of Instructional Development (OID) has installed Barix Instreamer IP audio encoding devices in 42 of the university's general assignment classrooms across the campus. UCLA's OID has been deploying the Barix Instreamers in phases since December 2005, with plans to roll them out to all 200 classrooms in the near future.

"With the Barix Instreamer in the classroom, we're able to economically record lectures in high audio quality and place them on our website so that students can retrieve them as podcasts, or listen to them as streaming media on a Real player," said Daniel Bustos, instructional technology and design coordinator for classroom services at UCLA, in Los Angeles, Calif. (www.oid.ucla.edu.) "We are finding that podcasting and webcasting are very effective learning tools."

"Our students love it for obvious reasons---they can go back and review lectures at their convenience from their PCs or portable players. It's been particularly beneficial to students with learning disabilities and those that speak English as a second language," said Bustos. "Our faculty members are pleased because their students can easily review the lectures, and as a result come to class better prepared and ask sharper questions."

Each classroom is equipped with a wireless microphone worn by the instructor which transmits the audio to a companion wireless receiver. The receiver then feeds that audio into the house PA system—which accepts audio from a variety of devices, such as DVD players and laptops—and feeds

it into an RDL micro-mixer, which sends it directly into a Barix Instreamer for realtime encoding into an MP3 stream.

All of the Barix Instreamers across campus send MP3 streams to a centralized recording area within UCLA's main campus library that is equipped with six PCs, each of which is set-up to record up to eight Barix IP audio feeds simultaneously. Using High Criteria's Total Recorder, each PC records the Barix IP audio streams and pushes them to UCLA's central podcast server which makes them available for download from www.bruincast.ucla.edu within minutes of class being over.

On the website, students are given a list of participating courses offered by UCLA in such subject areas as chemistry, psychology, political science, mathematics, astronomy, earth science, and biology. Clicking on a course name takes the student to a page listing all of the recorded lectures for that class that semester with a link to download them or listen to them online.. Faculty members determine which lectures will be recorded, and whether or not the audio files will be password-protected on the website.

"The Barix Instreamer is ideally suited to classroom recording. The only thing the faculty member has to do is to turn the microphone on at the appointed time. The recording starts and stops automatically in every participating classroom according to a schedule," said Bustos. "The rest of the workflow is fully automated once the initial set-up is completed. We have found the Barix Instreamer to be a solid, reliable, economical solution, and our goal is to make it more widely available to our students."

About Barix AG (www.barix.com)

Barix AG, headquartered in Zurich Switzerland, specializes in research and development of state of the art IP based communication and control technology. Barix products are stand-alone and able to remotely connect worldwide over standard networks / Internet offering new and improved solutions to the professional audio distribution, communication and automation industry. Barix products provide solutions in audio over IP (audio distribution and monitoring, communication, security) and automation (remote controlling, monitoring and maintenance).

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