

What is a Pyle Center Bridge?

A Video Conferencing Bridge is a service provided by Instructional Communications Systems (ICS) at the Pyle Center on the UW Madison Campus.

With the multipoint bridging equipment located at ICS, up to thirty sites can be connected simultaneously. The camera automatically switches to the site that is speaking, or the conference coordinator may pre-select one of the Videconference Viewing Modes:

http://www.uwex.edu/ics/cv/cpt_modes/modes.pdf

When you fill out the Video Conference Schedule Request Form and select your connecting sites, the Video Conference Team will decide whether your meeting requires the services of a Video Conference Bridge. In addition, the Video Conference Team will make all the necessary arrangements and scheduling for your meeting if a Video Conference Bridge is necessary.

When we do use a video bridge, the Pyle Center makes all connections and sets the viewing mode. If your video conferencing equipment is not turned on when the Pyle Center attempts to connect, you will not be included in the video conference. **DO NOT CONNECT YOURSELF.** Please call the Video Conference cell phone if you wish to be included at: 608/630-1469.

Important Bridging billing information

There is a charge for this bridging service. It is currently \$10 per hour, per site. Because of the complexity involved in connecting all sites to a video conference bridge, the Video Conferencing Team requests connectivity beginning 30 minutes prior to your meeting start time. For a one hour meeting, the actual connection time to the video conference bridge would be 90 minutes. The cost for a one hour meeting that connects five remote sites and one originating site, for example, would be \$90.

Once a bridge has been reserved through ICS, it can be cancelled at no cost one week in advance. If the cancellation occurs less than one week in advance, DFM will be charged for total amount.

If you reserve six sites for a video conference and we connect to all six sites, but only four sites actually participate, we will still be charged for all six sites. So, if you know someone will not be participating, please contact a Video Conference Team member as soon as possible. We can add and subtract any sites to an existing video conference bridge right up to the start of the conference - and only pay for the sites that actually do connect.

Audio-only connections

We automatically receive audio-only capabilities with a video bridge. This works similarly to a WisLine, however, no phone is necessary in the conference room. The participant simply dials into the video bridge from any phone and is automatically connected to the video conference - no passcode is needed. A Madison-area number and a toll-free number are available. Please contact a Video Conferencing Team member for these numbers.