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Activity Report of Asia-Pacific Medical Network Project in Kyushu University Hospital: Vol.2

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4. New instruments and technical tips

Here, we add some technical tips for teleconference using "DVTS" environment.

- (1) Simplest configuration (for desktop online meeting etc.)
 - Although it is recommended to make configuration described in (1) or (2) to have a comfortable teleconference, it may be difficult to prepare all devices actually. But even in that case, a teleconference can be performed under very simple configuration as follows. The necessary items are shown as Table 4-1.

Table 4-1 Items required

Item			
Digital Video Cam-coder			
Personal Computer			
Ethernet Cable			
IEEE1394 Cable			
DVTS software			
Network, connected to the Internet			
Microphone			

• Technical tips relating to each of the above are shown in Table 4-2.

Table 4-2 Technical tips

Item	Descriptions		
Digital Video Cam-	- In this simplest configuration, a DV camcoder built-in		
coder	microphone and PC speaker get so close. This situation		
		causes acoustic feedback (howling). It is	
		recommendable to use an external microphone.	
Personal Computer	- Global IP address must be assigned for the PC.		
	-	Because the PC has to handle bidirectional DVTS	
	traffics by one machine, it should have not only high		
	CPU power but also high graphics performance. That's		
		why it is not recommendable to use low performance	
		PCs.	

Item	Descriptions			
Network	-	DVTS software consumes about 35Mbits/sec		
		bandwidth.		
	- Traffic in excess of 35Mbits/sec must be transmitted throughout from a sending site to a receiving site. Any bottleneck on the way to the remote site prevents effective functioning of the DVTS software.			
	-	Transmission of such heavy traffic to the Internet		
	requires network system configuration adjustment ar			
		international negotiation by network administrators.		
Microphone	-	It should have uni-directionality and low sensitivity to		
		avoid acoustic feedback.		

• Connection of devices is shown as Figure 4-1

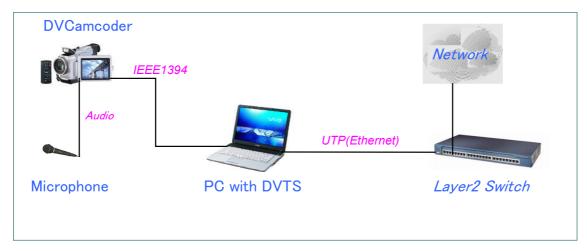


Figure 4-1 Simplest system configuration

(2) Another approach (for big conference etc.)

• In some conferences such as big academic conference, the voice quality should be kept very good and clear. As far as the configurations described in previous sections, the voice is transmitted as a DVTS audio channel. But actually, the quality of voice is sometimes not so good because of IP packet loss. When IP packets are lost so frequently, uncomfortable sound occurs and the attendees can't concentrate on the conference. To avoid this situation, there is another configuration option.

The option is using some IP telephony software (for example, Skype). Recent IP telephony software is very useful and can transmit the voice very clearly. Therefore combination of DVTS software and telephony software in teleconference makes the conference very comfortable. The necessary items are shown as Table 4-3 in addition to the items described in section (1) or (2) or (3).

Table 4-3 Items required

Item	Figure	Specifications
Personal Computer	VAIO	 Desktop or notebook type, running Microsoft Windows XP® High-speed CPU (over 400MHz of clock speed) Over 128MB RAM Over 15MB HDD space Fast Ethernet interface Stereo audio input / output interface
IP telephony software (ex. Skype TM)		- It is downloadable from http://www.skype.com/

[•] Connection of devices is shown as Figure 4-2.

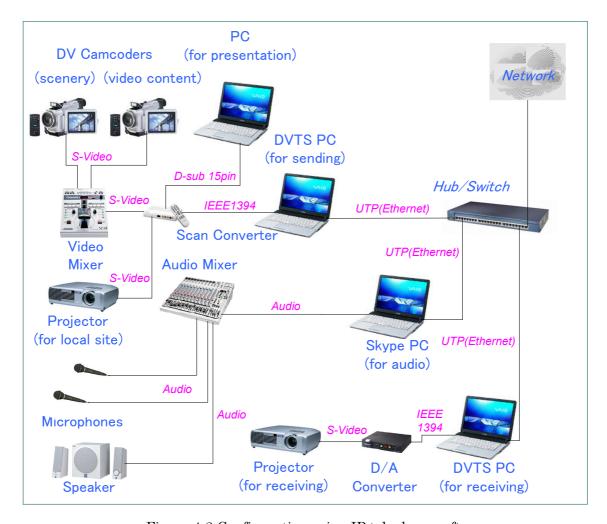


Figure 4-2 Configuration using IP telephony software