

Barco press release

27 October 2003
For immediate release

Contact: Koen Helsen
Marketing Communications Manager
Tel: +32 56 233 579
E-mail: koen.helsen@barco.com

Barco launches VISONA™ display server

New air traffic management embedded solution separates graphics visualization from application computer

KORTRIJK, BELGIUM, 27 October 2003 – On the occasion of this year's ATCA show, Barco announces the launch of the VISONA™ display server, a new hardware component for graphics visualization. VISONA™ allows application programs running on any computer in a network to display visual information on high-resolution displays. Thanks to VISONA™, the application computer does not require a graphics generator, which provides substantial flexibility for integration and maintenance. Moreover, the VISONA™ display server effectively solves space issues for today's traffic management operation rooms.

Barco's VISONA™ acts as a networked graphics server that translates the standard X11 protocol from remote applications into video output for up to 4 displays while interfacing with local input devices. VISONA™ eliminates the need for graphics generation on the application computer, thus increasing overall performance and reducing integration issues. The application computer can be fully dedicated to compute-only operations since graphics controllers and input device hardware interfaces are not required.

The separation of the graphics visualization function in the VISONA™ display server from the application function in the application server offers interesting advantages. Because the application server no longer needs a graphics adapter card and associated video cabling, it can be placed in an equipment room hundreds of meters away. Several application servers can provide input to the same VISONA™ display server, allowing for much easier integration of application into one position. Furthermore, the new display server concept makes logistics much simpler, since both hardware and software upgrades of the application server can be done without changing any other part of the system.

The VISONA™ display server also supports redundant networks and system monitoring through an SNMP (Simple Network Management Protocol) interface. It has options for Barco's ODS Window Manager and TELLAR™ Recording, Archiving and Playback solution, which can be added without any change to the existing application. A Flash

Barco press release

Card allows easy configuration of the display server as well as easy direct swap replacement with another display server. VISONA™ has no rotational storage device for system operation, which increases mean time between failures.

Finally, the hardware and software independence of the display server concept allows exceptional long-term support for VISONA™ as a black box.

About Barco

Barco, an international company headquartered in Kortrijk, Belgium, is active in three key areas of imaging technology. Barco designs and develops solutions for large screen visualization, display solutions for life-critical applications, and systems for visual inspection. Barco has a network of subsidiaries, distributors and agents in almost 100 countries. Barco is quoted on Brussels/Euronext and is a BEL 20 and a Next 150 company.