



Cost Analysis: ClassSpot PBL™ -10 vs. Traditional AV System

TIDEBREAK SOLUTION CUTS TECHNOLOGY COSTS BY 50%

An analysis by The Sextant Group (a national independent, Diamond-Certified consulting firm specializing in learning space planning and design) compared the cost for outfitting a state-of-the-art project-based learning studio using Tidebreak's ClassSpot PBL software to using a traditional switch-based AV solution. The room design assumed dual-screen projection at the "teaching wall" and ten (10) team stations where students could gather around a flat panel display to share information together. A detailed cost breakdown showed that ClassSpot PBL reduces the 5-year technology systems cost by nearly 50% and reduces energy usage by more than 2,300kWh/year, because with ClassSpot PBL, the need for a much of the hardware and custom interfaces goes away. Beyond saving costs and energy, the ClassSpot PBL solution provides a richer and more advanced experience, thanks to the advanced collaboration features built into the software.

The details of the cost comparison are shown on the following page.

PBL Classroom Using Traditional AV System

DISPLAY DEVICES

	Qty	Price	Extension
Professional 40" Full HD LCD Flat Panel Display	10	1,200	12,000
Lockable Wall Mount for Large Format LCD	10	259	2,590
HD WUXGA single-chip DLP projector	2	5,000	10,000
Video Projector Ceiling Mount	2	195	390
Projector and Equipment Security Alarm Device	2	86	172
			25,152

SOURCE DEVICES

Laptop Computer	51	+	+
Laptop Breakout Cable w/Audio for Computer Video	51	85	4,335
Custom Input Plate for Collaboration Station	10	300	3,000
Multimedia PC	1	+	+
DVD Player	1	180	180
Rackmount Kit	1	176	176
Computer Video Interface	1	520	520
Under Desk Mounting Kit for Computer Video Interface	1	35	35
			8,246

SIGNAL PROCESSING, ROUTING, AND DISTRIBUTION

52x12 RGBHV w/Stereo Audio Matrix Switcher	1	55,000	55,000
			55,000

SPEECH REINFORCEMENT SYSTEM/AUDIO CONFERENCING

UHF Wireless Microphone System	2	1,399	2,798
200 synthesized UHF frequencies	2	Included	
Wireless Receiver, 200 freq	2	Included	
Handheld Transmitter	2	Included	
Bodypack Transmitter 2	2	Included	
Rackmount Kit for One or Two Wireless Receivers	2	Included	
Lapel Microphone, Electret Condenser, Cardioid	2	199	398
Presentation Audio Mixer w/ 4 Mic and 6 Line Inputs	1	2,600	2,600
6.5" Ceiling Loudspeaker w/70V Transformer	4	159	636
			6,432

SOUND REINFORCEMENT SYSTEM

3 Chanel Amplifier	1	750	750
Medium/Large Stereo Loudspeaker	2	245	490
			1,240

CONTROL SYSTEM

Control System Processor	1	2,700	2,700
12" Control Touch panel Media Center w/ Quick Media	1	8,000	8,000
75 W Power Supply for Card-Frame Control Processor	2	450	900
12 Button Keypad	5	260	1,300
			12,900

RACK, PANELS, MISCELLANEOUS

Caster Base with 3" Casters for Rack	2	134	268
RGBHV Cable with audio and control Per Foot	3000	3	9,000
Rack Panels, Vents, Mounts, Shelves, other rack materials	1	200	200
Installation Materials	1	500	500
42" Equipment Rack (24RU)	2	722	1,444
Vented Front Door for 42" Equipment Rack	2	234	468
Side Panels for 42" Equipment Rack (Pair)	2	311	622
			12,502

Total Systems Equipment **\$121,472**

SYSTEMS LABOR

Systems Installation Labor	17,438
Control Software Development	5,203
	22,641

Total Equipment & Systems Labor **\$144,113**

5-Year Service Estimate (for hardware) 14,411

Total Room Technology Costs **\$158,524**

± Owner-furnished equipment

*Assumes ClassSpot PBL license is part of 5 license, 5 year bundle

PBL Classroom Using ClassSpot PBL System

DISPLAY DEVICES

	Qty	Price	Extension
Professional 40" Full HD LCD Flat Panel Display	10	1,200	12,000
Floor Stand for PFD with locking base	10	750	7,500
HD WUXGA single-chip DLP projector	2	5,000	10,000
Video Projector Ceiling Mount	2	195	390
Projector and Equipment Security Alarm Device	2	86	172
			30,062

SOURCE DEVICES

Small Form Factor Computer	12	599	7,188
Laptop Computer	50	+	+
			7,188

CONTENT ROUTING, DISTRIBUTION AND CONTROL

ClassSpot PBL10, 5-year license (*)	1	22,029	22,554
			22,554

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RACK, PANELS, MISCELLANEOUS

Cable, Terminations, Cable Dressing, etc.	1	300	300
RGBHV Cable with audio and control Per Foot	70	3	210
Mounts, Shelves, other mounting materials	1	500	500
Installation Materials	1	3,398	3,398
			4,408

Total Systems Equipment **\$71,884**

SYSTEMS LABOR

Systems Installation Labor	3,544
Software Configuration	N/A
	3,544

Total Equipment & Systems Labor **\$75,428**

5-Year Service Estimate (for hardware) 4,569

Total Room Technology Costs **\$79,997**

50% Savings!