

HOK uses advanced technology to take collaboration to the next level.

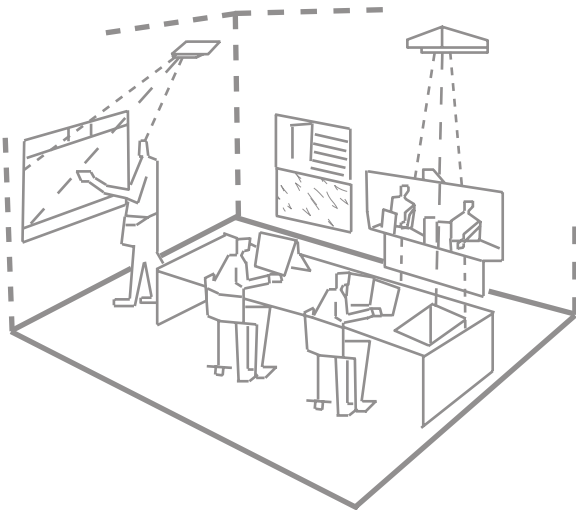
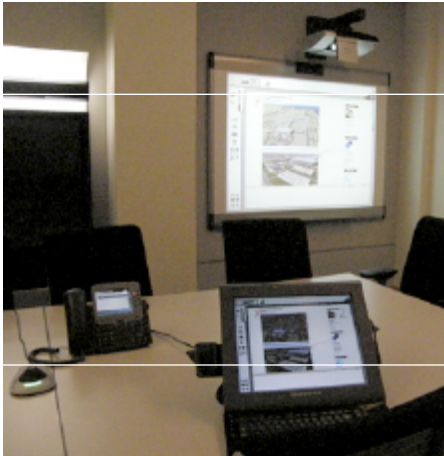


“ Within HOK lies all of the talent and resources required to design any project type of any scale. The ACR project opened a channel for HOK to tap into those resources to design specialized projects across the globe. Although important, the financial ROI of the ACR project is secondary to the gains in efficiency and productivity. ”

John Bartolomi
HOK

hok: advanced collaboration room

Architecture and design firm HOK has always been an industry leader when it comes to sustainable design. With more than 64 LEED Certified projects, HOK takes designing green solutions for its clients very seriously. So it only made sense that HOK would want to apply this environmentally forward thinking to their own culture. In 2007, HOK’s board of directors set out to reduce carbon emissions in its projects and practice by 50 percent by the end of 2010. Research showed that one of the biggest sources of emissions was travel. With 23 offices on three continents, employees often have to fly across the globe to meet clients’ needs and collaborate with colleagues. If HOK could reduce the need to travel, they could move quickly towards meeting their environmental goals. This idea defined the Advanced Collaboration Room project.



HOK set out to implement a solution that would allow them to have face-to-face meetings and work collaboratively in real-time. Telepresence by Cisco was chosen as HOK's video conferencing solution. However, according to John Bartolomi, VP and Director of IT Services at HOK, "[video conferencing] lacked one critical feature that is paramount to our project team, advanced data collaboration. However impressive the high-def video was, every HOK executive who saw the solution had the same comment: *"This is amazing, but what about data collaboration? It is equally important to our business."*

Enter THUNDER and One Workplace. The THUNDER real-time collaboration solution allows for seamless collaboration between groups. Data can be virtually communicated, organized, stored, and displayed to all participants, wherever they may be located geographically. Multiple displays in each collaboration space can present different ideas at the same time, whether in a client presentation, design review, or project updates.

Taken together, THUNDER and Telepresence presented the perfect solution for HOK. The only question remaining was how to integrate these two entirely different systems. At this point One Workplace was able to step in and collaboratively develop the idea of the Advanced Collaboration Room (ACR) with HOK. "The idea was to physically arrange the two technologies into a dedicated room in such a way that they work together seamlessly. When HOK staff walks into any ACR, they [aren't aware] that they are using two systems. It looks and feels like one experience all controlled via a custom interface" (Bartolomi).



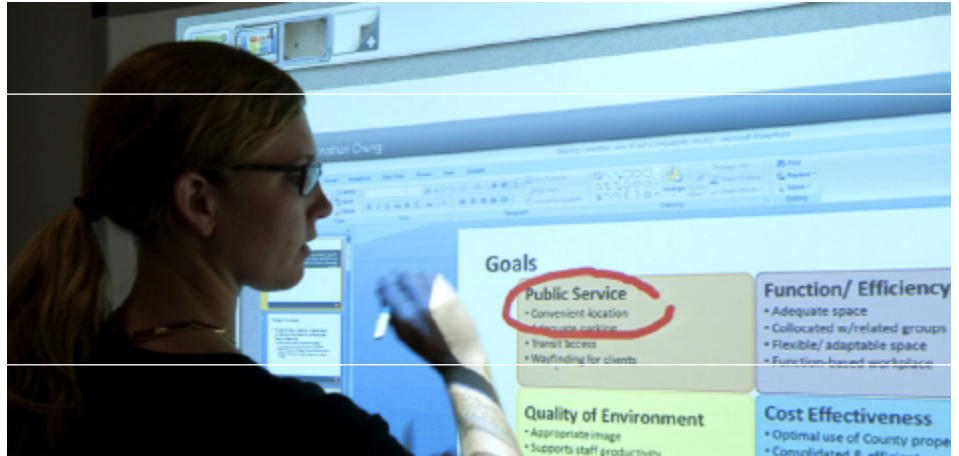
THUNDER
Global Sites

- Atlanta
- Beijing
- Chicago
- Dallas
- Doha, Qatar
- Hong Kong
- Houston
- London
- Los Angeles
- New York
- San Francisco
- Seattle
- Shanghai
- Singapore
- St Louis
- Tampa
- Toronto
- Washington DC

One Workplace and HOK developed the idea of the ACR from the ground-up. *“One Workplace had to determine the proper functional components, their arrangement, look and feel and integration around the THUNDER technology in a way that did not detract from the Telepresence experience”* (Bartolomi). The One Workplace team took an active role in the planning, design, and implementation processes necessary to complete the project. In addition, One Workplace team members traveled to 15 of HOK’s offices worldwide to teach over 1,000 employees in person how to use the new system.

Both client and employee reactions to the ACR’s have been extremely positive. The stress and costs associated with traveling have been reduced dramatically. Clients have also benefitted by being able to take a more proactive role in collaborating with HOK. Through simply an internet connection and their own computer they can easily take part in any meeting and collaborate in real-time.

The benefits of the ACR’s have gone far beyond employee and customer satisfaction. The financial savings that HOK has realized are impressive. *Based on the costs associated with implementing 18 ACR’s and with reduced travel expenses, HOK’s ROI will be achieved within two years.* With increased employee satisfaction, employee retention has remained high, which has directly affected worker communication, productivity and client satisfaction. This has had a direct impact on better decision making by HOK employees. According to Bartolomi, *“working smarter is hard to quantify, but I have no doubt that these ACRs are helping project teams get information right the first time, which translates into better productivity, fewer mistakes and ultimately less litigation. In an industry where every project is unique, efficiency and productivity are the keys to profitability.”*



“One Workplace genuinely understood what we were trying to achieve. They approached our idea with excitement and commitment. Their enthusiasm for the concept was apparent in their design choices, equipment choices and implementation expertise. It was a true joint venture to create the ACR that evolved out of a mutual appreciation for good design, problem solving and simplicity. They are flexible, reliable and have become a valued partner.”

John Bartolomi
HOK

HOK is on track to meet its goal of reducing carbon emissions by 50%, in large part due to the ACR's. Furthermore, in the first half of 2010, HOK saved over \$1.25 Million in travel expenses by eliminating the need to travel between offices. When translated to carbon dioxide reduction, HOK has saved 618 metric tons so far. It is projected that they will save 1,236 metric tons by the end of 2010. This data was measured through calculated use estimates of potential flights saved when scheduling Advanced Collaboration Rooms.

Not only have THUNDER and Advanced Collaboration Rooms helped HOK meet their environmental goals, they have also proven instrumental in many other facets. While improving client and employee satisfaction, the ACR's have ultimately improved decision making, productivity, efficiency, and profitability. *HOK's forward thinking proves that great design comes from within a company's own culture.*

For more information, contact us today at (800) 899.4324 or visit us at www.oneworkplace.com.