

INSANELY GREAT!

Trent Vineyard

Making the switch to HD

Trent Vineyard wanted to be able to use a mixture of live and recorded video in their services and events, but their aging editing equipment and SD projection system weren't up to the job. We helped them find new cameras and editing tools, re-cabled their AV system to eliminate the lag and added mixers and switchers so that they could upconvert footage to HD.

Finding a streamlined, versatile AV system

Trent Vineyard have always been big fans of multimedia, trying their hand at everything from staging live music shows to shooting documentaries about the church's volunteer workers. But their AV system had been built up piecemeal over time, so the cameras, switchers, mixers and workstations were optimised for a mishmash of different resolutions and formats.

They wanted to upgrade to a single, streamlined HD system which would let them project high quality video and images alongside a mixture of live and recorded audio tracks. Anthony Hammond, our AV expert, worked with Trent Vineyard's technician, Gavin Courtney, to identify shortfalls in their existing setup and find hardware and software to fill the gaps.

Recording and editing footage

The first thing we did was set them up with a pair of JVC HY-GM700 cameras. As well as being HD-capable, these cameras had the added bonus of recording natively in .mp4 (which is compatible with most IT and AV devices) and .MOV format (which is also native to Final Cut, Trent Vineyard's NLE of choice). This meant that Trent's team wouldn't have to spend time transcoding and reformatting footage, and ensured that their editing process stayed quick and easy for new volunteers to learn. We also supplied them with the latest version of Final Cut Studio and a top-spec Mac Pro to edit on, meaning they had everything they needed to create amazing Mac-friendly AV displays.



Working with...

trentvineyard

In a nutshell...

Who are Trent Vineyard?

Trent Vineyard are the Nottingham branch of the Vineyard church group. They use technology to help deliver relevant, contemporary messages to a several hundred strong congregation.

What did they need?

Trent Vineyard's AV system had been built up piecemeal over time, so the cameras, switchers, mixers and workstations were optimised for a mishmash of different resolutions and formats. They wanted to upgrade to a single, streamlined HD system which would let them project high quality video and images alongside a mixture of live and recorded audio tracks.

How did Jigsaw24 help?

We helped them find new cameras and editing tools, re-cabled their AV system to eliminate the lag and added mixers and switchers so that they could upconvert footage to HD.

What were the benefits?

- Trent Vineyard can now convert all their content to HD, and output crisper, clearer images and video through a simple pipeline.
- Volunteers can learn the system quickly and easily.

For more information about updating your AV setup, get in touch on the details below.



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Speeding up delivery

Once the church had the means to create its own content, we set about making sure they could deliver it. One of the big issues with Trent's setup was its high level of latency - the church's main stage is backed by two screens, and staff wanted to project close-ups of performers onto them during live shows and services. Their existing setup lagged severely, making any attempt to project a live feed pretty confusing for the audience. To overcome this, our AV team re-cabled parts of the setup so that it was entirely digital, giving Trent Vineyard a zero latency system without the need for a pricey overhaul.

Making the move to HD

The next step was to get everything working in HD. We installed a Gefen 8x8 DVI Matrix, which let the Trent team link up their computers and displays without having to deal with overly complicated networks.

Another big point in the Gefen Matrix's favour was that the team could input different formats and resolutions but choose to output them all in full HD, giving them instant access to stunning high res video and images.

Finally, we hooked up Trent Vineyard's cameras to a Panasonic AV-HS400e HD/SD vision switcher, which supports downstream keying, chromakeying, picture-in-picture display and, crucially, upconversion from SD to 1920x1200 WUXGA resolution. This meant that Trent's team could project HD footage complete with titles and transitions.

During the installation it became clear that Trent Vineyard's infrastructure wasn't going to be able to support as many devices as we'd originally thought. Mark Marshall, our intrepid on-site engineer, rolled up his sleeves and installed extra power cables and connectors so we didn't have to scale down the system we'd planned on installing.

Some last minute changes...

Once everything was in place, we trained Trent's AV volunteers up on their new content creation and switching system.

As part of their preparations for the new system, Trent needed to reorganise their control room, so Mark and his team went back to the church for a second round of recabling to make sure that all the key components - including cameras, projectors, switchers and the computers used for editing - could still connect to the new, fully digital, lag-free infrastructure from their new positions. Happily, everything went as planned on launch night!

“Working with Jigsaw24 has been great, from their help in specifying the kit, through to the installation. Their technical help guys were fantastic in answering all the questions I had about all the different kit options, and their speedy response to help with snags after the install was great. Overall, I wouldn't hesitate in recommending them - they're a pleasure to deal with!”

— Gavin Courtney **Trent Vineyard AV Technician.**

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