



Vidyo's videoconferencing touch screen desktop for under \$1000 – telepresence for everyone

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Vidyo, Inc., the first to deliver personal telepresence, is now the first to deliver telepresence to the executive desktop in an easy-to-use touch screen form factor, for the price of a computer. The VidyoDesktop Executive, selected as Best of Interop Finalist in the Collaboration category, offers a full 1080p HD experience.

The solution leverages low cost, off-the-shelf, All-in-One touch screen computers running VidyoDesktop 2.0 software at one-tenth the cost of the leading executive desktop video conferencing appliance. Vidyo's new executive desktop application highlights the value and innovation of the VidyoConferencing™ product line, which is entirely built upon standard x86-based platforms, thereby benefitting from the cost and performance curves of the high volume computer industry.

“Video conferencing should be as accessible and spontaneous as any other form of business communications,” said Ofer Shapiro, Vidyo CEO and co-founder. “One of the most often heard complaints about videoconferencing is that, despite all of the new products, it's still too difficult to use. Compared to traditional dedicated appliance-based offerings, Vidyo's executive desktop solution delivers this long-awaited ease-of-use for one-tenth of the price of any comparable product. The simplicity and intuitive design of the VidyoPortal™ graphical user interface on a multi-purpose touch screen computer finally puts telepresence quality video communications at an executive's finger tips.”

Complementing Vidyo's full line of HD room systems, the VidyoDesktop runs on Mac and Windows- based laptop and desktop endpoints. With its customized VidyoDesktop configuration, the VidyoDesktop Executive leverages existing designs offered by a new breed of “all-in-one” computers. It can be a dedicated VidyoConferencing device, or serve as a multi-purpose executive desktop conferencing endpoint that is also a productive personal computer. Now, with a single device, executives can both maintain a high level of productivity on their PCs and have personal telepresence at their finger tips with the most intuitive and easy-to-use interface available today.

The new user interface of the VidyoPortal™ 2.0 was designed with touch screens in mind and enables a user to join a multi-party Vidyo conference by simply touching the screen. Using VidyoDesktop Executive's built-in application-sharing feature, simple applications like MS Paint can be used quickly and easily to communicate graphical ideas with a finger,

drawing directly on the screen, allowing other conference participants to see the “white board” in real-time.

“The VidyoDesktop Executive touch screen application is just one instance of many enhancements to the collaborative experience of VidyoConferencing we will be releasing,” said Shapiro. “IT managers understand that this isn’t just about a particular endpoint, but also about a flexible, scalable architecture that can consistently deliver telepresence experiences across a variety of readily accessible devices and networks. The launch of VidyoDesktop Executive marks the convergence of high-end telepresence devices with mainstream computing hardware. Now telepresence integrates with workflow – easily-accessible and reliable from wherever the user happens to be over whatever broadband network is most readily available. Our VidyoDesktop Executive is so intuitive that even an executive can join video conferences without IT support!”

(Story Courtesy: NetEvents)