
Friday, May 20, 2016 – 1:00pm – 2:30pm

eCourts Strategic Plan Updates



North Carolina Commission on the Administration of Law & Justice

Technology Committee Presentation



Agenda

Considerations when the Technology Committee returns in September...

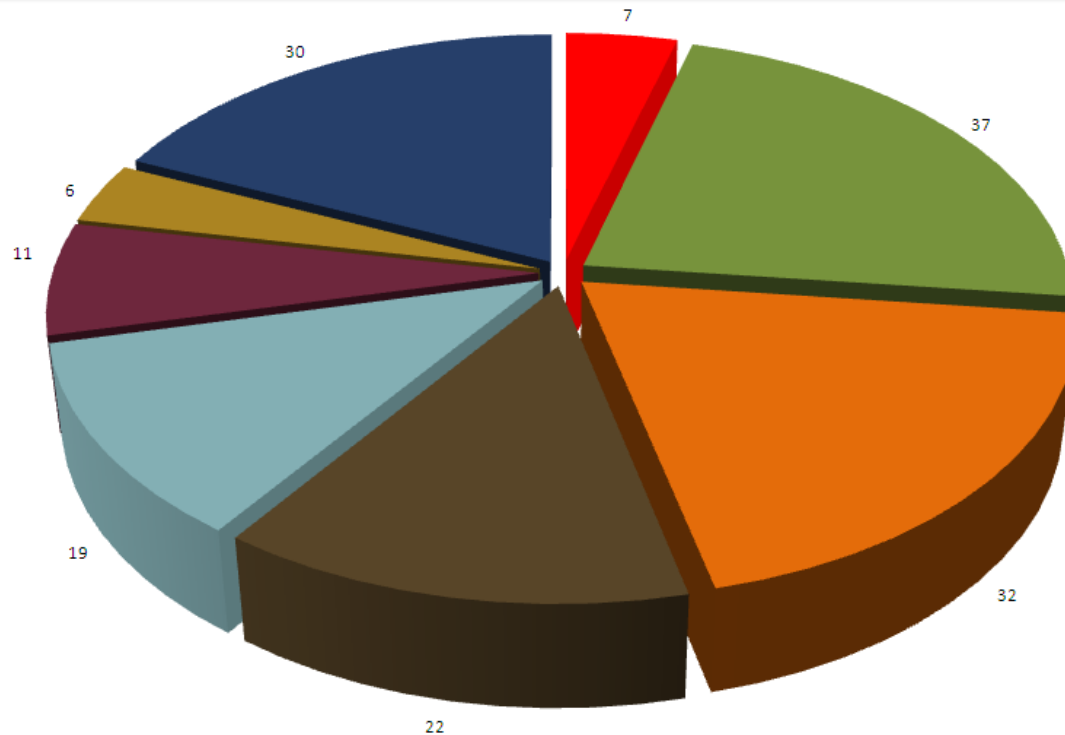
1. Video Technology
2. Updating Technology to support a Unified Court System
3. Courtroom Technology and Exhibit Management



VIDEO TECHNOLOGY



Court Video Conferencing Usage



How long has your court or state been using video conferencing?

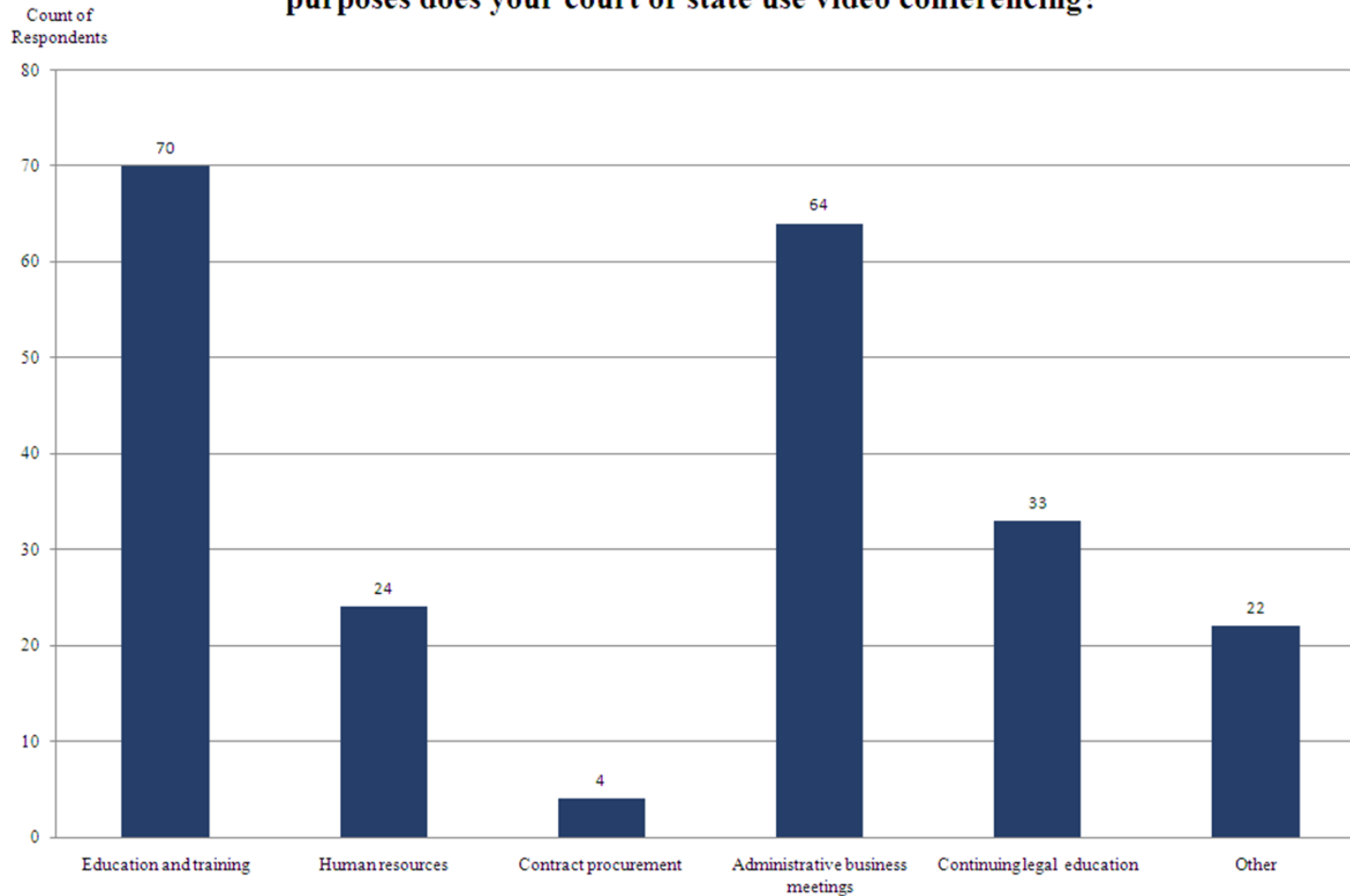
- 20 years or more
- Between 10 and 20 years
- Between 5 and 10 years
- Between 2 and 5 years
- Between 0 and 2 years
- We plan to begin using video conferencing within the next 2 years.
- We plan to begin using video conferencing more than 2 years from now.
- We do not currently use video conferencing and have no plans to do so.

2010 NCSC Survey



Court Video Other Uses

Aside from court proceedings, for what other purposes does your court or state use video conferencing?

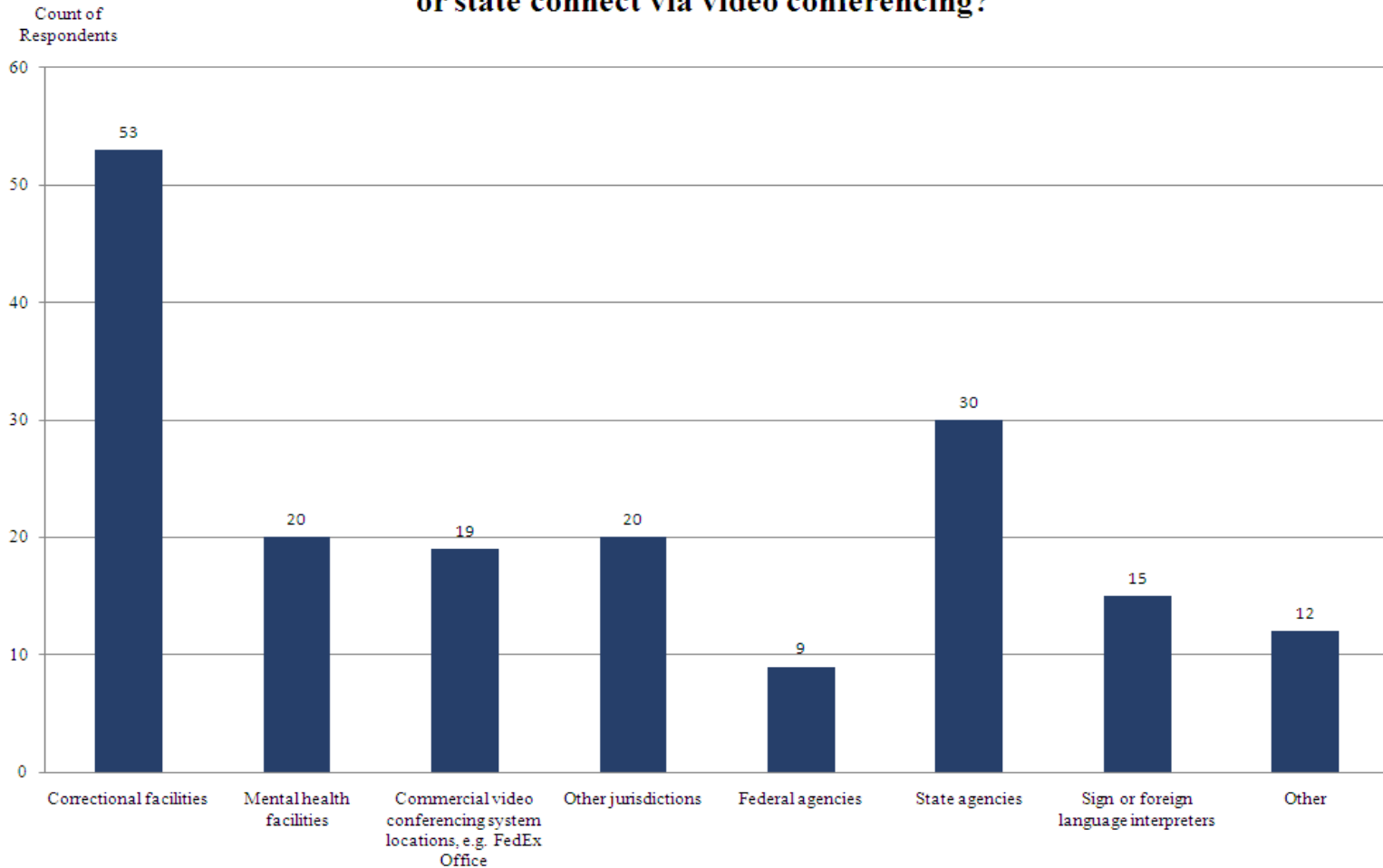


2010 NCSC Survey



Court Video Other Institutions

To what other institutions does your court or state connect via video conferencing?



2010 NCSC Survey

Video



- Use an outcomes and value approach to evaluating video solutions.
- Top use: Arraignment.
- Other uses:
 - Motions hearings.
 - Remote witnesses.
 - Video remote interpretation.
 - UK Trial (From police stations)
 - Victims.
 - Witnesses.
 - Police.
- EU – Developing video between countries.



Video Concerns

- Probably not an anytime, any place model.
- Defendant participation/involvement.
- Defendant/witness credibility (testifying from prison may send a strong inference of guilt).
- Communications between attorneys and defendants.
- Safe environment.
- Witness independence.
- Loss of in person witness personal presence/demeanor.

Video Solutions



- Proprietary.
- Vendor Service.
- Cloud.
- Public Internet – Skype.

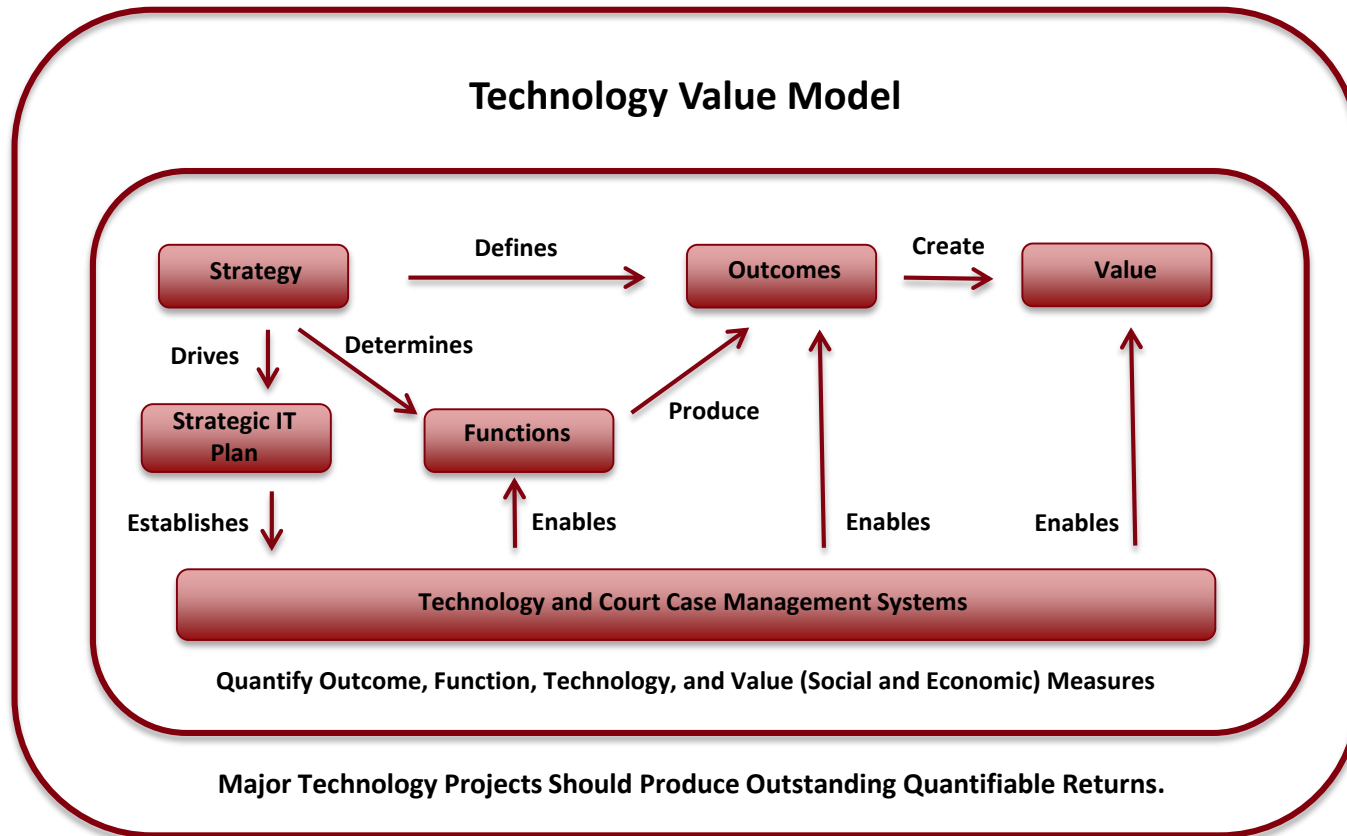


UPDATING TECHNOLOGY TO SUPPORT A UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM



Mission and Strategy Drive Technology

Mission and Strategy Drive Priorities, Outcomes and Value. Technology Enables.



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Updating Technology - Unified Court System



1. Mission and strategy.
2. Governance model (ratified/not operational).
 - Criteria for decision-making.
 - Funding.
 - Roles.
 - Decision-making.
3. Technology strategy.
4. Update based upon priorities and funding.
5. Changes require changes to IT Strategy.



COURTROOM TECHNOLOGY AND EXHIBIT MANAGEMENT

Courtroom Technology and Exhibit Management



Background:

- Technology is changing rapidly.
- In NC cameras are allowed in courtrooms during trials for recording/televising (not the responsibility of the NCAOC)
- ABA – Encouraging federal court use of video and audio recording of trials and appellate hearings.
- NC uses court reporters and electronic recording devices
- Do juries and judges have access to these as part of their decision making process?
- What do most judges have or want? What about Appellate Courts?

Approach:

- Use an outcome and value approach for evaluating courtroom and exhibit management solutions:
 - Will they help juries and judges make better decisions?
 - Do they create a better record?
 - Will they allow attorneys to more effectively make their case?
 - Will they increase efficiency and save money?
- Courtroom technology should support but not be intrusive.

Courtroom Technology and Exhibit Management



Management:

- Will you need an in court technology manager? Probably.
- Judges control courtrooms. Judges control courtroom technology. Need an integrated controller to allow the judge to control all audio, screens, and records.
- Plan backwards – How will technology presentations become part of the record? Establish standards for documents, video, audio and other feeds.
- Determine approach and design – individual displays for each juror, attorneys, parties, and witnesses? Or court-wide displays? What access will jurors have in the juror room? Who manages juror access?



Courtroom Technology and Exhibit Management



Technologies

- Jury Evidence Recording System (JERS) – Records and organizes electronic evidence.
- Evidence/document cameras.
- Annotation monitors.
- Video displays, microphones and speakers.
- Laptop/digital input locations.
- Presentation podium.
- Combo VCR/CD/DVD player.
- Courtroom printing and electronic storage of exhibits.
- Remote witness testimony and video conferencing.
- Media/public access systems.
- Wireless.
- Backup systems for a data systems.
- Court architecture, furniture and lighting should be designed for technology.



Document Camera



Evidence Presentation Station

Courtroom Technology and Exhibit Management



You can implement it. Will the attorneys use it?

Questions and Discussion





Thank you!

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