ROOMZ
INTELLIGENT OFFICES

CASE STUDY
University of Basel





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ELECTRONIC ROOM SIGNAGE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF BASEL

As part of a renovation of the lecture halls and seminar rooms, the conventional door signage in the «Kollegienhaus», main building of the University of Basel, was replaced by ROOMZ displays. The new Biozentrum building, which will be ready for occupancy in 2021, should also benefit from the experience gained.

Those in charge used the conversion project as an opportunity to introduce modern digital signage at the same time. Sören Markus, purchasing coordinator for audiovisual systems in the Facilities department, adds: «It was a logical step for us to also replace the analogue occupancy display within the scope of the digitization project. The door signage previously only showed a weekly view. The rather small lettering meant that readability also left a lot to be desired.»

ROOMZ DISPLAY ALSO CONVINCED IN COMPARISON

Sören Markus and Michèle Martin, who are in charge of the teaching rooms in the Kollegienhaus, did not have to think twice when it came to evaluating the system. Their colleague Daniel Oeschger recommended the ROOMZ Display. In charge of the lecture rooms at the Biozentrum/Pharmazentrum of the University of Basel, he explained: «In the process of planning and constructing the new Biozentrum

University of Basel

LOCATIONS
More than 80

SECTOR
Education and University

HEADCOUNT
6,400

NUMBER OF ROOMZ DISPLAYS
30 displays

Founded in 1460, the University of Basel is the oldest university in Switzerland, spreading across more than 80 buildings in Basel. The audio and video infrastructure of individual rooms is currently being digitized in the Kollegienhaus at Petersplatz, which was built in 1939.
The conversion is taking place in three stages, the first of which was successfully completed at the start of the 2020/21 winter semester.



«Auditorium support circulates around the building during the day, using the door signs as orientation. The professionals and also event participants can now rely on the fact that the bookings always correspond to the current status of the bookings.
This up-to-dateness of the information is a huge added value compared to the paper timetables.»
Michèle Martin, in charge of the teaching rooms in the Kollegienhaus

building, which has been ongoing since 2012 and is expected to be ready for occupation in June 2021, we have been working on room signage for quite some time. It was in this context that I visited various educational institutions and noticed the ROOMZ Display at ETH Zurich. It was immediately clear to me that this was the perfect solution for our remodeling. Particularly since various rooms in the building have glass walls. Because we wanted to do without unsightly power cables to the displays, we needed a power-independent, WLAN-based system. The simple and clear display structure also convinced me about the ROOMZ display. In addition to the design, it was particularly significant to me that the ROOMZ components were developed and manufactured in Switzerland. Compared to other wireless displays, ROOMZ's solution stood out not only in terms of its quality but also for its long battery life.»



ROOMZ Display

TAILOR-MADE SOLUTION FOR THE UNIVERSITY

The team in charge had just one year to plan and complete the remodeling of the Kollegienhaus. The ROOMZ Displays were intended for use purely as door signs with no room booking functions. Nevertheless, apart from the ambitious schedule, there were other special features. All lecture details are maintained in a central room database. The challenge was to integrate this extensive database into the new solution. ROOMZ offered its own programming know-how and an API interface for the necessary integration.

Another central issue was the template, i.e. the content and visual design of the display screen. Michèle Martin remembers: «We put our thoughts on paper and ROOMZ implemented them extremely efficiently.»

THE RESULT IS FULLY CONVINCING

The ROOMZ displays have been doing their job since they were placed in operation. Room bookings are made centrally by various space planners in a room info application. Room occupancy is always up-to-date and clearly displayed. Students and lecturers can conveniently switch from the daily to the weekly view using the touch screen. This enables them to always see from when to when the respective room is occupied and which subject is being taught by which lecturer. With the weekly view, the auditorium service also always knows which rooms need to be cleaned and when. Those responsible at the Kollegienhaus of the University of Basel are enthusiastic about ROOMZ and will expand the system to include meeting and conference rooms that are reserved in Outlook.



«The new Biozentrum building at Spitalstrasse 41 comprises 19 floors, 14 of which contain 40 seminar and lecture rooms. A staff member in our department previously had to replace the door signs by hand. This would have been a challenging task for an outdated system in the new building. With the ROOMZ display, we can update the occupancy at intervals we choose ourselves or at the touch of a button and they are always totally up to date!»

Daniel Oeschger, in charge of the lecture rooms at the Biozentrum/Pharmazentrum

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