ROOMZ
INTELLIGENT OFFICES

CASE STUDY
ABB SWITZERLAND



Back on track with ROOMZ room management

ABB headquarters building in Zurich offers 44 meeting rooms. While not all 144,000 ABB employees hold their meetings there, a new, reliable reservation system was needed. ROOMZ was chosen because it was the solution that best suited ABB. Here is some insight into the decision-making process.

"It is always difficult to introduce innovations into a daily routine that is dominated by habit. The new solution must be easy to use and safe. What's more, people have to actually use it... and also like it." The person who spoke those words knows what he is talking about. Bartosz Patyna, Project Manager Headquarter Information System, took on what proved to be no minor challenge; when he joined the project, the administration had already been working on it for four years. He took the reigns as head of the Room Booking and Visitor Management project, and his first decisions soon followed.

ROOMZ AND OUTLOOK – A GOOD COMBINATION

The first decision to be made was which software the booking system was to be connected to. The project group quickly realized that Outlook would be the best choice for two reasons: it is both the cheapest option and an extremely adaptable one.

NUMBER OF EQUIPPED LOCATIONS

3

SECTOR

Industry

HEADCOUNT

144.000

NUMBER OF MEETING ROOMS

44

NUMBER OF ROOMZ DISPLAYS

62

ABB is a leading global engineering company that energizes the transformation of society and industry to achieve a more productive, sustainable future. ABB looks back on a success story of more than 130 years.

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«ROOMZ is 100 % the solution we were looking for.
Wireless: no further explanation needed.
Easy instant booking: you go to the display, choose the desired reservation period, press the button, done! And the text on the display is readable from any angle. ROOMZ makes our working lives easier.»

Bartosz Patyna, Project Manager Headquarter Information System, ABB

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Things became more challenging after that: the booking system had to be capable of displaying occupancy and all reservations at the room entrances. Four providers were initially in the running, but none met these or a few other requirements.

This pushed Bartosz Patyna to look for other providers in the country. A tip led him to ROOMZ and its head of sales and marketing Fabien Moine. “After his initial presentation and a brief check of our needs with the stakeholders, together with a comparison with the specifications, it became clear to me that ROOMZ is absolutely the solution we were looking for”, summed up Bartosz Patyna.

RAPID INSTALLATION, DESPITE OR BECAUSE OF CORONA

The decision was made, and then came the lockdown…did that mean an end to wrestling the project? Far from it, Corona actually lent the project wings. It meant that installation of the displays and the adaptation of the software could be tackled immediately, as the meeting rooms were not in use. It turns out they had backed the right horse with Outlook, because compliance with data protection regulations became a non-issue. This mattered, because in the project manager’s experience, many projects fail at this stage. One minor restriction remained, but this was inconsequential: red and green lights for the current displayed status on the input screens. No problem, because most people check the large flightboard in the lobby, which shows the status of the rooms on each floor. Many users complement the ROOMZ Flightboard feature, as used at ABB to provide a clear overview. After just six weeks, the test run on one floor was followed by a voluntary survey of people using the ROOMZ Outlook solution. The result was good, with 231 survey responses, and they all liked the new solution. The entire building was converted in short order. ROOMZ actually needed less than three days for the configuration and physical installation: a day for the preparation of the booking system, a day for the installation on site and about two hours to train the users. The booking system has operated flawlessly since then.

INTERPLAY WITH OTHER ASPECTS

When asked what were the key experiences when looking back on the cooperation with ROOMZ, project manager Bartosz Patyna is not at a loss for an answer. “The presentation to all stakeholders made it clear that Fabien Moine checked off all the boxes. Not only that, he brought the equipment with him and we were able to experience first-hand, get the look and feel, not just virtually on screen. ROOMZ also had immediate answers to the final questions, which was greatly appreciated by those in charge at the head office. What also set them apart from the other applicants was that the ROOMZ team works absolutely professionally and is very committed.” As Bartosz Patyna summed it up, “ROOMZ best met our requirements, also in terms of costs”.

AND THE BEST FOR LAST ...

Bartosz Patyna is keen to highlight the advantages of the ROOMZ solution: “Wireless, which needs no further explanation. Easy instant booking: you go to the display, select the desired reservation period, press the button, done! And the text on the on the display can be read from any angle. ROOMZ will make our working lives easier in the future.” Recommended? “I have already done so. My colleagues in the Dubai branch have ordered eight of them.”

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