

Cobb EMC [USA]



Cobb Electric Membership Corporation (Cobb EMC) is one of Georgia's largest EMCs and also one of the largest in the nation. The facility is responsible for over 8,200 miles of electrical line and Cobb EMC's distribution system covers approximately 415 square miles. As a not for profit, member-owned corporation, Cobb EMC is dedicated to providing its members with the best service at the lowest possible price.

Technology upgrade enables outstanding service

In order to continue to provide customers with outstanding service and low costs, Cobb EMC team members carefully considered display solution options and benefits when they recently decided to upgrade the technology in their facility's control room.

Cobb EMC installed its first Barco display wall in 1998. For over 7 years, the Barco 6 x 4 50" ML50 display wall was utilized 24-hours a day, seven days a week, running more than 460k hours. In the Fall of 2005, Cobb EMC decided the time had come to upgrade to the latest technology and replace the display.

"Barco was certainly a front-runner when we committed to replacing the display, however, we had to review all of our options, from technology and cost perspectives. When we began to review our options, we found a variety of options due to the market being much more crowded than it was during 1997," states Corbitt Clift, Manager of Special Projects at Cobb EMC.

BARCO

Visibly yours



The Cobb EMC system consists of eight OverView cDR'80-DL rear-projection cubes, one TRANSFORM A18, one TRANSFORM A4 controller and the OSIRIS wall management software

Clift continues, "After reviewing numerous companies and their products, we concluded that Barco was the only company that offered the best product to meet our needs, and we were confident the reliability of the Barco product solution, coupled with the company's commitment to service and support, would far exceed any other company's product offerings."

Increased efficiency and reliability

Barco's OverView cDR'80-DL system, arranged in a 4 x 2 matrix, allows Cobb EMC operators to create nearly the same image size as the legacy Barco 6 x 4 50" display wall, however the new display wall requires 1/3 fewer cubes. The new configuration cut Cobb EMC operation costs, including lamp replacement, by an impressive 70%. In addition, the new Barco solution increased processing speeds for EMS and OMC controller applications by 300% percent, because of the lower number of required output cards. The image quality provided by the new 4 x 2 80" wall far exceeds the display technology of the previous Barco installation, due to the new solution's DLP™ technology. Barco's "stitched technology" provides operators with a virtually seamless image, almost invisible to operators.

Barco designed its OverView cDR'80-DL projection module based on an innovative modular approach. The product solution is unique in that the modules projection unit is separate from the illumination unit, resulting in an easy to maintain projection cube with superior picture quality. The OverView cDR'80-DL also features built-in lamp redundancy, reducing operational costs and ensuring a reliable, permanent image.



The optical dimmer guarantees equal brightness and contrast across the entire display wall and enables consistent display performance for the life of the display wall.

Taking total control

The Barco TRANSFORM A18 controller acts as the primary source to the display wall. The TRANSFORM A18 performs as a large X-server, using standard X.11 protocol, displaying EMS and OMC applications anywhere across the entire 4 x 2 display wall. The controller enables the display to

provide the look of a 5600 H x 2100 V desktop. Operators have keyboard and mouse control of all displayed applications and have the ability to launch pre-formatted "layouts" from their desks using Barco's OSIRIS wall management software.

The Barco TRANSFORM A4 controller is connected to the second DVI input on four of the OverView cDR'80-DL cubes. In an emergency, the 4 x 2 display wall is split into two separate 2 x 2 display walls, allowing two operating crew to operate independently.

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Barco Control Rooms - Belgium
Noordlaan 5, 8520 Kuurne
Phone (32) (56) 36-8211
E-mail sales.controlrooms@barco.com

Germany Phone (49) (721) 6201-0
USA Phone (1) (678) 475-8000
Brazil Phone (55) (11) 3842-1656
Japan Phone (81) (3) 5762-8720
Hong Kong Phone (852) 2397-0752

