

Courtroom Presentation Equipment

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System Overview

The Ventura Superior Court has six ExhibitStation carts available for courtroom presentations. Five are located in the Ventura Courthouse and one in the East County Courthouse. This system allows attorneys to show evidence and presentations using a variety of tools. The evidence or presentation is viewed on LCD monitors located at the Judge's bench, the witness stand, counsel tables, and projected on to a large screen for the jury. The system includes the following equipment:

- Elmo Visual Presenter EV-400AF - This is a camera that can present materials such as 3-D objects and transparencies.
- Monitors that utilize the Pointmaker PVI-46 - These are located at the witness stand and on the presentation cart. This allows either the attorney or the witness to annotate the exhibit or presentation so that the annotation can be viewed on all monitors.
- JVC Video Cassette Recorder - This allows presentation of any standard VHS tape.
- Laptop - The court does not provide laptop computers and will not assist with configuring or troubleshooting connection problems. However, the system does have a port that allows the presenter to connect a laptop computer in order to display computerized files or presentations. If it has been determined that the connection is working properly, it is the responsibility of the attorney to make sure that the laptop is configured correctly to connect to the system.



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Guidelines

- The only personal equipment that can be directly connected to the presentation system are laptop computers. If you require other equipment, you must be able to access it through the laptop connection. No Exceptions.
- There is no charge for using the equipment.

- The court does not provide any software for laptops used with the system (i.e. Powerpoint).
- Before reserving any equipment, the attorney must first receive the appropriate training from the local Bar Association or the agency they work for (Public Defender or District Attorney.) Please refer to the training section of this guide.
- Reservations are first come, first served. There are a limited number of ExhibitStation carts available.
- Since in almost all cases, trial dates are not "firm" until the last minute, there will be no advance reservations.
- Counsel will request the use of the equipment on the date of trial (usually to be set up prior to opening statements). The request is made to the Judicial Assistant (JA) in the appropriate courtroom.
- If the case is trailing (on call) the request will be made at the time of the call back.
- The JA will schedule the equipment, reserving the equipment for the anticipated length of the trial.
- The JA will make any necessary adjustments to the reservation as required (e.g. trial ends early or runs long).

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Availability

The following courtrooms have the appropriate wiring and monitors to accommodate the presentation equipment.

Ventura Courthouse: Courtrooms 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 33, 34, 35, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, and 47

East County Courthouse: Courtrooms S3 and S5

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User's Guide

The TrialView ExhibitStation User's Guide is available in an Adobe Acrobat file.

[Click here to view or download the Users_Guide.pdf \(390 KB\)](#)

Adobe Acrobat Reader® is needed to view or print this file.



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Training

If you are an attorney and you would like to receive additional information or training on this equipment, please contact the appropriate agency or association listed below.

Agency	Contact Name	Phone	Email
District Attorney	Katherine Clark	(805)654-2511	Katherine.Clark@mail.co.ventura.ca.us
Ventura Bar Association	Steve Henderson	(805)650-7599	bar@vcba.org

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TrialView

User's Guide



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF VENTURA

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this guide is to familiarize you with the TrialView™ courtroom presentation system, its components, layout and operation. The guide offers a quick and easy way to help you learn effective system operation and shows you how to use the powerful communication devices available in the courtroom.

The first section of this guide identifies the equipment and summarizes the capabilities of each component. Subsequent sections tell you how to operate each piece of equipment during your presentation.

Drawings and photos of the courtroom equipment are used throughout the manual. Location arrows define and point out the equipment's control functions for easy reference.

The information in this guide will provide you with the knowledge you need to prepare and present exhibits with comfort and confidence. If you have questions or problems with the operation of TrialView™ please contact the court administrator.

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EQUIPMENT IN THE COURTROOM: SUMMARY

The following equipment is available in the courtroom for use in the presentation of exhibits. Each of these components is located on the lectern. You can select between modes of presentation by pressing a button on the Scaler/Switcher device, also located on the lectern below the VCR:

- ELMO visual presenter/document camera
- VCR – VHS video player
- PC Input – attach a PC or Mac to system

Annotation capability is also available at the witness stand, which is equipped with a 15" touch screen monitor. The witness can both view your annotations and make his or her own annotations during your presentation. Operation of the witness stand is described in detail below on page eleven.

Display to the jury is provided by a high resolution projector located on the front of the jury box. Please be advised that the judge has a power-kill switch on the bench that can immediately terminate any display to the jury.

SYSTEM CAPABILITIES: SUMMARY BY COMPONENT

VISUAL PRESENTER/DOCUMENT CAMERA

The ELMO visual presenter/document camera includes the following features:

- Viewing of documents one page at a time
- Viewing of slides and overhead transparencies
- Viewing of 3-D objects
- Power Zoom lens
- Auto or Manual focus
- Negative/Positive option for viewing negative films
- Color/Black & White option for viewing choice
- Optional inputs for Laser Disc Player, Camcorder or other video equipment
- Camera head can be swiveled for viewing of an object not on the stage
- Camera head can be rotated 90 degrees for viewing large size documents

VCR

The VCR offers the following features:

- Standard Play
- Slow Motion
- Freeze Frame
- Single Frame Shuttle
- Remote Control

POINTMAKER

The Pointmaker® allows on-screen annotation of exhibits presented on the system. The Pointmaker® includes the following features:

- Variable color choices
- Freehand line drawing
- Multiple annotations on screen at one time
- Removal of annotations all at once or one at a time starting with the most recent

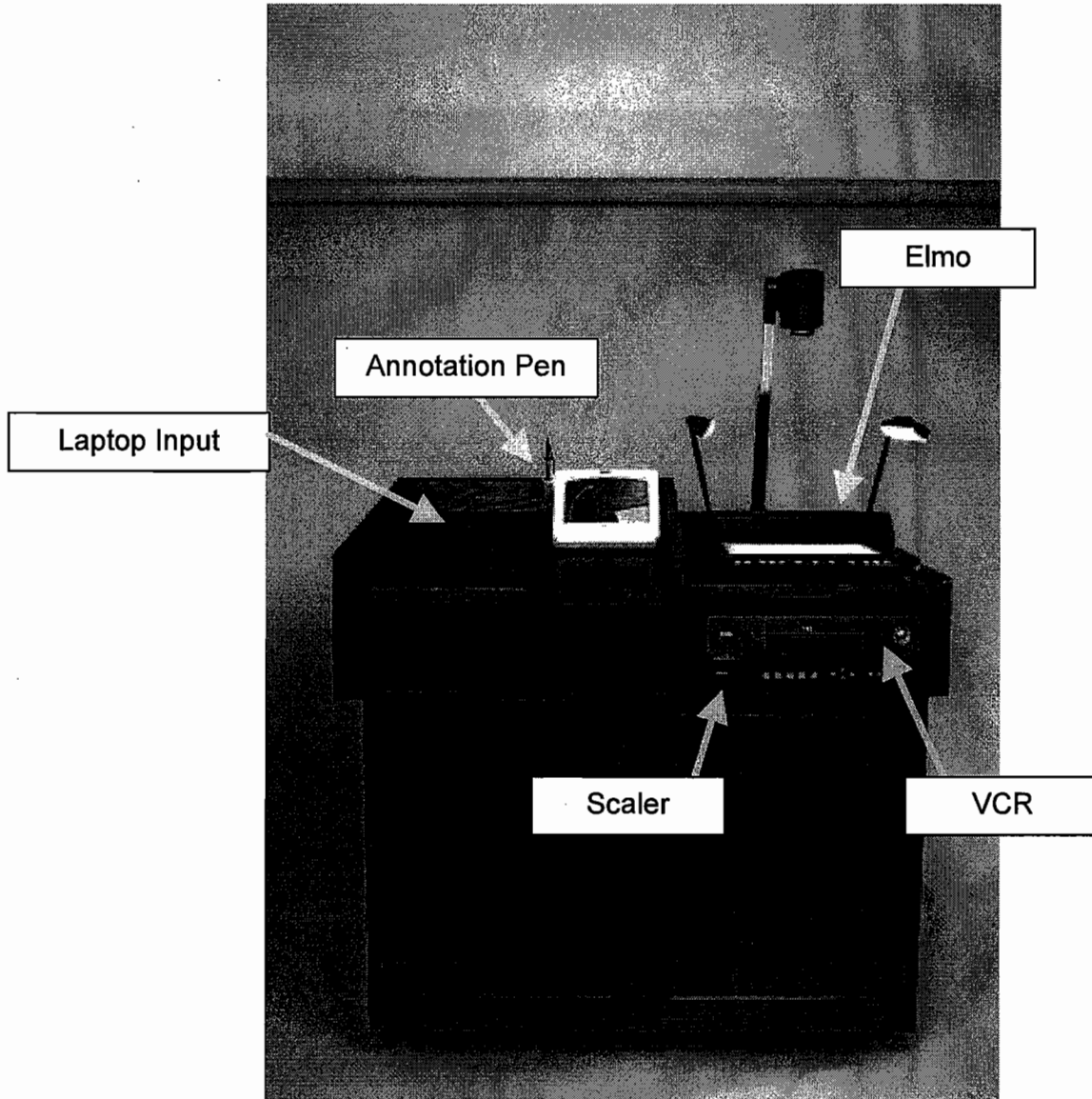
COMPUTER INPUT

The Computer Input offers the following features:

- Connection to a PC
- Connection to a Macintosh (requires Mac to VGA converter)
- Sound connection from computer

Please note that to function properly with the video system, any connected computer device should be configured with a screen resolution of 1024x768.

The ExhibitStation™ 2 Lectern



OPERATION OF EQUIPMENT

CONTROLLING MODES OF PRESENTATION:

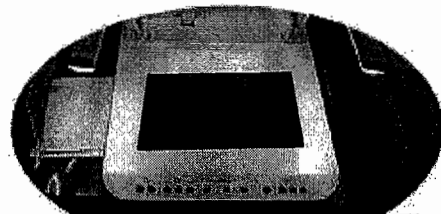
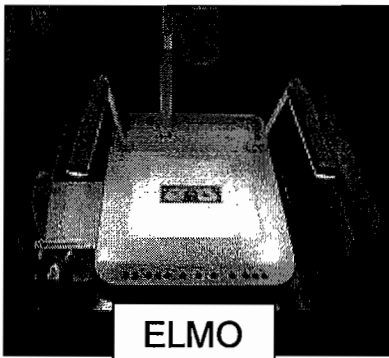
THE SCALER/SWITCHER

The Scaler/Switcher is located on the lectern adjacent to the VCR, allowing you to select between the different pieces of equipment used in your presentation. You may choose between the ELMO visual presenter/document camera, the VCR, the audio cassette player and connection to a user provided laptop computer at the lectern.

- Press "ELMO" for display from the ELMO visual presenter/document camera
- Press "VCR" for display from the VCR
- Press "LAPTOP" for laptop computer

VISUAL PRESENTER/DOCUMENT CAMERA

The ELMO visual presenter allows you to display documents or 3-D objects on the video monitors.



Simple steps for presenting printed materials:

1. Turn on the power switch of the Visual Presenter.
Various functions of the Visual Presenter are initialized.
Their respective indicators display the initial settings of those functions.
2. Place the object on the stage area.
While observing the image on the podium monitor, adjust the zoom buttons to obtain the optimal size.
3. Press the auto focus button to focus.
The covered area of the auto focus function is up to about 10 cm. above the stage surface.

Simple steps for viewing transparencies and x-rays:

1. Press the [BASE] lighting button. (The [BASE] indicator light comes on, and the built-in base light illuminates.)
2. Press the Nega/Posi conversion button, so that the indicator shows [N] (Negative) mode.
3. Place the object on the stage.
4. While observing the image on the TV monitor, adjust the zoom button to obtain the optimum size.
5. When turning off the base light, press the [BASE] lighting button again.

CONTROL FUNCTIONS

Lighting

- Use the upper lighting unit for viewing materials such as printed matter and 3-D objects. Use the base light for viewing slides, negative film transparencies and x-rays.
- When you press the lighting button, the indicator flashes, and after a few seconds, the fluorescent lamps illuminate.
- To turn the lamps off, press the lighting button again. It is not possible to simultaneously use both the upper lighting unit and the base light.
- It is advisable to use the upper lighting unit to obtain the clear image with better color rendering, especially when the stage is not sufficiently illuminated by room lights or where a 3-D object is to be viewed.

Neg/Pos conversion

- Use this function to view negative film as positive images.
- Press the Neg/Pos conversion button, so the indicator shows [N] (negative).

Color/B&W selection

- Use this mode to view B&W materials such as documents.
- For normal use, set to [C] (color) mode.
- Pressing the color/B&W button changes to [B&W] or [C] mode in succession.

Zoom

- When the zoom button is pressed to select [TELE], the image gets larger.
- When the zoom button is pressed to select [WIDE], the image gets smaller.

Auto Focus

- When you press the auto focus button, the indication lamp flashes during focusing.
- The Visual Presenter features a one-step auto focus function. Once focusing is completed, the auto focus function is released. Even if the object is moved, the focus remains unchanged.
- To focus the image with auto focus setting, set the zoom button at extreme telephoto position. This allows you to obtain a sharper image.

It is difficult to automatically focus on an object under the following conditions. Select the manual focus mode for the following conditions:

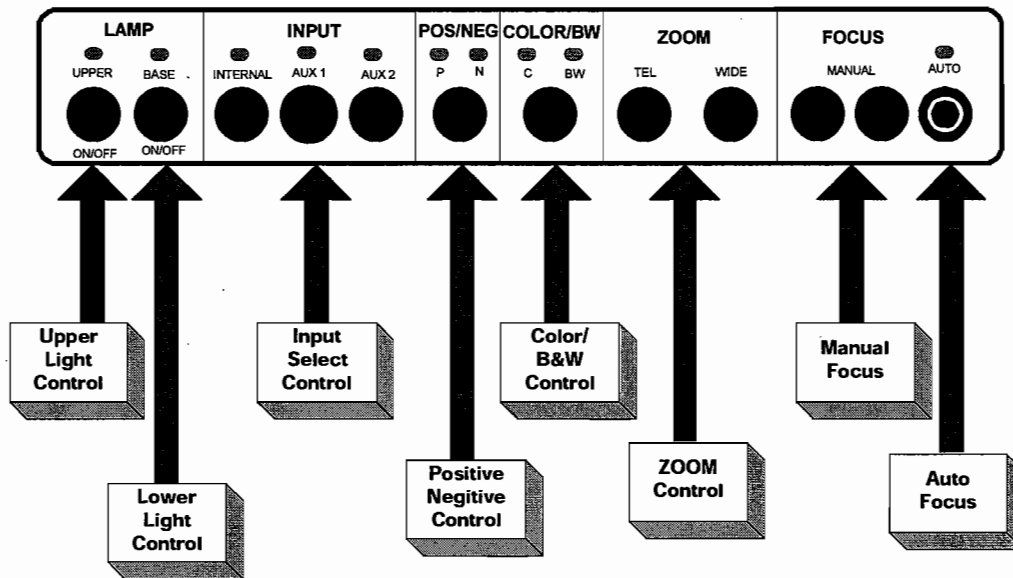
- Objects containing little contrast
- Objects having a fine repeated pattern, such as lateral stripes, or a checkered pattern
- Bright object or one reflecting strong light
- The background of the object is bright, or the contrast is too clear
- Picture plane itself is dark
- The positions of the objects are far and near
- Moving object
- Note: when using the manual focus during auto focusing, the auto focus function is cancelled

Manual Focus

- Press the focus button [N] or [F] for manual focusing.
- This function should be used to view 3-D objects. Any part of the object can then be brought into focus.

Note: The coverage area of manual focusing is up to approx. 10 cm. above the stage surface.

ELMO Front Control Panel



VCR

The VCR in the courtroom is a high quality, multi-function player. It features a full-function remote control. Control of the unit is similar to other VCRs and is not difficult to operate.

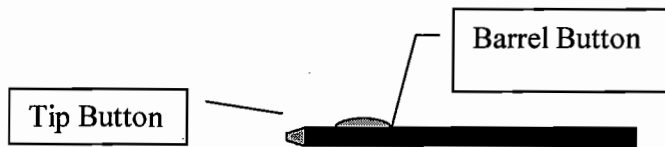
Operating instructions:

- Select "VCR" on the Scaler/Switcher to view VCR output
- Turn on power on the VCR
- Insert the tape into the VCR
- Press play on the VCR
- To stop the tape, press the stop button on the VCR
- To pause the tape, press the pause button on the VCR
- To advance one frame at a time, rotate the shuttle knob once to the right to move forward or once to the left to move backwards.

POINTMAKER

The Pointmaker® allows you to annotate your electronic exhibits with freehand drawing or with pointers in a choice of seven different colors. Pointers may be moved or anchored anywhere on the screen. Several pointers or drawings of different colors may be displayed on the screen at one time.

- To draw a line: Gently press the tip button of the pen on the screen and trace across the screen of the monitor. Freehand drawing is accomplished when the tip button is pressed gently into the screen and “drawn” across the screen much like a writing utensil.
- To place a pointer: Gently press the tip button of the pen on the screen at the point you want the marker, then lift the pen.
- To change color: Press and hold the barrel button while clicking the tip button gently with your finger.
- To erase the most recent marker: Click the barrel button. As you continue to click, the markers will be removed one at a time beginning with the most recently anchored marker.
- To erase all markers at once: Press and hold the barrel button; all markers will be erased.



COMPUTER INPUT/SOFTWARE

The computer input at the lectern is actually an extension of your computer screen. As such, you can use any program you normally run on your computer to display information and exhibits to the court. This includes spreadsheets, word processors, databases, software presentation packages (such as Microsoft PowerPoint® or inData TrialDirector™), and other programs.

To connect your computer at the lectern:

1. Locate the Scaler/switcher that resides in the lectern below VCR and push the button labeled "LAPTOP".
2. On the top of the lectern, connect your computer's VGA cable to the port labeled "COMPUTER".

INPUT”

3. On the top of the lectern, connect your computer's audio cable to the port labeled “AUDIO INPUT”

4. On the top of the lectern, plug your power cord into the conventional power plug.

Refer to your Laptop's Users Manual on “Switching LCD/Video Output”. Example- generally for Dell laptop computers press Fn(Function Key)+F8.

Note: In order to function properly with the video system, any connected computer device should be configured with a screen resolution of 1024x768.

WITNESS STAND TOUCH-SCREEN ANNOTATION

The witness stand is provided with a 15" flat screen (LCD) monitor with touch-screen enabled annotation capability.

Operating the Touch-Screen Monitor:

The witness stand touch-screen monitor is enabled by the courtroom deputy. When enabled, the annotation capabilities of the monitor are controlled by the witness by touching the screen as described below.

- You may use your finger or a plastic stylus to make freehand drawings on the screen.
- A light tap on the screen with your finger or the stylus will create a place mark.
- You may change the color of your annotation by tapping the "change color" box.
- To erase the last annotation made, tap the box labeled "undo."
- To erase all annotations on the screen, tap the box labeled "clear all."

