

Sony delivers increased law and order for Domstolsverket, the Swedish National Courts Administration



Background

Domstolsverket are the Swedish National Courts Administration, with overall responsibility for all Swedish courts and their legal & operating procedures.

Customer challenge/ business needs

Domstolsverket's ongoing challenge is to simplify and speed up the legal process through increased efficiency and quality, resulting in better assessment of cases. They contacted Sony Business Europe to explore whether together they could exploit recent advances in technology to help meet these needs.

The Sony solution

Sony Business Europe, together with Domstolsverket, created a technical solution that turned the court into a high-tech studio. The solution includes cameras, projectors, monitors, video, projection screens, overhead, computers, touch screens, sound installations and software. A fully developed system includes monitors for all members of the court, and for the prosecution and defence.

The technology is controlled by the court's president via a touch screen. It enables him to choose which images the court will see, control cameras, sound and light, overhead and projectors, and link to a witness sitting in a separate witness room with a camera and monitor. This can be used, for example, for a witness who does not wish to be confronted with the defendant in person. The witness can also be interviewed from a remote location using the same technology, saving time and money.

Product(s):

- Cameras
- Projectors
- Monitors
- PCs
- Touch screens
- Sound installations

‘The technology simplifies and speeds up the legal process.’

Martin Weyler, judge and technical manager at Svea Court of Appeal.

The implementation

Sony was responsible for everything in this solution, from technology to software, support, documentation and various other services. Sony has currently delivered this solution for a number of Swedish courts, including the Svea Hovrätt (Svea Court of Appeal) in Stockholm.

Sony’s expertise with advanced video-conferencing technology allows for the provision of elegant, impactful and cost-effective solutions. Due to its one-stop-shop nature, Sony was able to provide a complete end-to-end solution for Domstolsverket, from initial counsel and recommendations through to implementation and roll-out. This ensured that Domstolsverket would have a tailored solution, built specifically to address the challenges it faced and wished to overcome.

Customer Benefits

‘We avoid inefficient courts with paper being sent around. We save a lot of time and avoid revisiting the same things unnecessarily – we achieve quality instead of quantity. With higher quality, the courts can make a better assessment and this increases law and order’, said Martin Weyler, judge and technical manager at Svea Court of Appeal.

‘The technology simplifies and speeds up the legal process. The most common reason for legal proceedings to be suspended is that a witness does not attend. This increases the load on the courts quite unnecessarily. Using this technology we can bypass the problem.’

Sony – the market leader

‘Together with the Swedish National Courts Administration we have created a model that is customised so that not only will it work in purely technical terms in the courtrooms but will also merge into a sensitive environment with regard to the premises themselves and questions relating to integrity and law and order’, says Henry Jensen at Sony.

Following the early success of the project, this technology will be introduced in 100 Swedish courts over 3 years.