



**Lewis Brisbois  
Bisgaard & Smith**

# Law Firm Leverages Video Conferencing to Cut Costs, Increase Communication

## Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith deploys Polycom video solutions firm wide

Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith (LBBS) is a 500-attorney law firm with offices located in Chicago, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, New York, Orange County, Phoenix, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Francisco, and Tucson. The firm covers 22 practice areas, each with several sub-specialties. Prior to the widespread use of video conferencing technology, conducting a firm-wide meeting required attorneys to travel extensively. Sometimes this involved attorneys traveling across the country to attend a two-hour meeting, resulting in inefficiencies and expense. All this changed when Arthur Leeser, information technology director for LBBS, introduced Polycom video conferencing technology to the firm.

### Enabling Efficient Internal Communications and Training

For years, LBBS spent tens of thousands of dollars monthly on travel expenses for partners, associates and support staff across the country for internal meetings. Leeser proposed to the firm that a more efficient way to conduct interoffice meetings was available via Polycom video conferencing technology. Leeser's primary challenge was to find a service that would meet all of the firm's internal communications needs, which included point-to-point and multipoint video calls, ISDN, IP, bridging, and more. In the future, additional services would be required as the use of video conferencing technology expanded; and the firm needed a vendor that could meet this growth. Courtroom Connect was its vendor of choice for a robust Polycom video deployment.

### A Legal-Focused Approach to Video conferencing

According to Leeser, "LBBS is a large law firm that specializes in more than 20 practice areas. It was our goal to find an efficient and cost-effective way to facilitate internal communications, and video conferencing emerged as a solution." Polycom's video conferencing technology has allowed the firm to conduct a substantial number of video conference meetings per month, between as many offices and relevant team members as required. No longer limited by geography, LBBS now has the ability to construct a team of experts in a case as necessitated – without a single member leaving the office.

### Challenge

Reduce the tens of thousands of dollars spent by leading law firm on a monthly basis to facilitate internal communications and training

### Solution

Polycom group video conferencing systems

### Result

Substantial cost savings, more efficient and frequent meetings

"It was our goal to find an efficient and cost-effective way to facilitate internal communications, and video conferencing emerged as a solution."

*Arthur Leeser  
Information Technology Director  
Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith*

Courtroom Connect has been providing wireless Internet service, video conferencing and video, audio, text and evidence streaming for trials, depositions, jury research and other litigation events for more than five years. Not only does the company have expertise in legal technology, it offers the entire bundle of services that LBBS needed. Instead of merely selling the company video conferencing equipment, Courtroom Connect worked with Leeser to help him identify the firm's unique video conferencing needs and the types of applications that would allow it to get the most out of its investment. Along with the Polycom video conferencing equipment, the firm received premier, white-glove technical support, ISDN, point-to-point calling, and multi-point bridging services from Courtroom Connect.

## A Solution for the Future

By selecting Courtroom Connect, LBBS has chosen a video conferencing platform that can expand as its needs grow. It is a platform that seamlessly supports legal industry networks, such as Law School Connect, Bar Connect, Remote Counsel Network, and the DSBA Speaker's Panel. Furthermore, it is compatible with Courtroom Connect's Litigation Event Services. As a result, LBBS attorneys can now take advantage of video conferencing, video streaming, and Internet services whenever they need them – in their offices, at trial, in deposition, or during arbitration.

## About Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith

Founded in 1979, Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith has grown into a 500-attorney, nationally recognized law firm with offices located in Chicago, Lafayette, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, New York, Orange County, Phoenix, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Francisco, and Tucson. Each of the Firm's offices includes partners, associates and a professional staff dedicated to meeting the challenge of providing the firm's clients with extraordinary service.

### **The IT Perspective**

*This area is for position only; it is not meant to be read. and outputs from the conference for court records. Video and audio are also captured on digital video recorders and are automatically uploaded to the case file. The courtroom's desktop computers are equipped with digital signature pads and printer/scanner units, allowing the judge to review case documents during the arraignment, sign documents in real time, and add additional documents to case files in written or digital format.*

*At holding cells, custom cabinets house set-top Polycom IP video conferencing solutions that have been designed for full remote control. The law enforcement, prosecutor and community corrections systems are comprised of desktop computers equipped with Polycom desktop video solutions. To connect seamlessly with sites outside of the OakVideo network, the Department of Information Technology added two Polycom MGC video conference bridges, and Polycom's Path Navigator advanced gatekeeper and Global Management System software facilitate network management and administration.*

## About Courtroom Connect

Courtroom Connect is the leading provider of advanced communication services to the legal industry, including law firms, court reporters, bar associations, litigation support firms, courts, and jurors. Its product offering includes Internet, video conferencing, and streaming products for the office on a permanent basis as well as on a temporary basis for legal events, such as trials, jury research, war rooms, and presentations. Courtroom Connect also has three video conference networks – more than 250 public rooms around the world available for rent, a law school network for recruiting, and a bar association network for CLE events and speakers.

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