DEMOSOPHIA
Floor Plans & Equipment

A1987 Memo on
Major Physical Design Factors
in Creating a Demosophia

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MAJOR PHYSICAL DESIGN FACTORS IN CREATING A DEMOSOPHIA

DEMOSOPHIA is the name given to a specially designed room used to conduct Interactive Management (IM) sessions. This document describes some of the major design factors to be adhered to in creating a DEMOSOPHIA.

The information provided below represents a set of minimum requirements necessary to properly conduct IM sessions; it does not describe all design requirements. For further information, please call the Center For Interactive Management at George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia 22030, (703) 323-4107.

Typical Conduct Of IM Sessions In DEMOSOPHIA

* DEMOSOPHIA is to be a dedicated facility for use during normal business hours, the evening, and weekends.

* The room arrangements and supporting equipment should be available, remain intact, and be secured for the duration of IM sessions (sometimes several days).

Physical Dimensions And Attributes Of DEMOSOPHIA

* A minimum floor area of 30 ft by 45 ft is required. A dedicated utility room containing copying equipment, drafting space, and supplies is needed to support IM sessions. See Figure 1.

* No windows or wall hangings on the four vertical walls. The walls will be used for display purposes. One must be able to walk up to the walls without interference (heaters or furniture in the way). Masking tape must be able to stick to the surfaces (e.g., no cloth surfaces).

* Controlled ceiling lighting to be used during the use of audio-visual equipment. Emergency lighting installed.

* Adequate heating and air conditioning capacity and control -- enough to keep thirty individuals warm or cool depending on the season.

* Ten standard electrical outlets spaced throughout the room.

* A long-distance telephone line and push-button telephone. This connection must be able to sustain continuous long-distance (data) conversations for up to six hours with no interruptions at any time of the day or week.

* A flat, eight-foot square wall area at the front of the room suitable for projecting audio-visual images.
Furniture Requirements In DEMOSOPHIA

- Four large, rectangular conference tables, of size 4 ft by 8 ft. They should be movable, i.e. not fastened to the floor.
- Eleven chairs for the conference tables with comfortable seat padding, armrest padding, and swivel base with rollers on the floor.
- Twenty-five observer chairs which have comfortable seat padding.
- Two extra, portable tables (4 ft x 6 ft): a) for use with a personal computer and printer; b) for use as a supply table.
- A table to accommodate coffee and other refreshments for thirty individuals.

Audio-Visual/Computer Equipment In DEMOSOPHIA

- One overhead projector, on rolling stands, with extension cords and extra bulbs.
- Computer terminal with a CRT (Cathode Ray Tube) screen and video output connection.
- A 300/1200 selectable baud modem with cabling to connect to the computer terminal and to the telephone.
- A large screen projector capable of receiving and displaying the video output signal from the computer terminal. Also, forty feet of cabling and appropriate attachments to connect this projector to the video output connection on the computer terminal.

Other Support Requirements

- Two easels with four pads of white, plain butcher block paper (24" x 37").
- Immediate access to a (reducing) copier throughout the entire IM sessions. Sufficient reams of copier paper in sizes: 8.5" x 11", 8.5" x 14", and 11" x 17".
- Misc. cabling and extension cords.
- Limited drafting equipment.
- Sufficient and convenient restroom facilities capable of accommodating thirty individuals.