The TeamWork® system is designed to work with most brands and models of flat panel displays and wide-screen projectors available worldwide. For optimum performance, there are a few things to consider when selecting displays for your TeamWork system installation.

SCREEN SIZE

The vast majority of displays feature an aspect ratio of 16:9 (sixteen units wide by nine units high), measured diagonally. In general, flat panel displays in the 40- to 60-inch diagonal range are well-suited for use in collaboration systems. Larger projected images may be desirable in classroom and conference room applications. To estimate the screen size best for your TeamWork application, use the following rule of thumb:

For a high resolution, wide-aspect ratio display, optimum viewing distance is considered to be three to five times screen height. For example:

– A display with a nominal diagonal measure of 50" (127 cm) has screen dimensions of approximately
  43.5" (110 cm) wide by 24.5" (62 cm) high.
– 3x screen height = viewing distance of 74" (188 cm)
– 5x screen height = viewing distance of 123" (312 cm)

This range of viewing distances generally accommodates teams of four to six members seated around a six-foot (1.8 m) long table located adjacent to the display – not too large for those seated closest to the display, nor too small for those sitting farthest from the display.

RESOLUTION

Full-resolution HDTV displays with a native resolution of 1920x1080, or 1080p, are recommended. 1080p displays are the most-commonly available, in sizes that fit the broadest range of collaboration environments.

CONTROL ATTRIBUTES

The TeamWork system supports flat panel displays and projectors controlled via IR or RS-232 commands when used with an available Extron IP Link® control processor. Drivers for many displays are available for download at www.extron.com/drivers for fast implementation.

Flat panel displays can also be controlled with an AC power controller such as the Extron IPL T PC1 or PC 101. The IPL T PC1 is the standard system controller used in TeamWork Pre-Configured System packages. To use an AC power controller, look for these features when selecting a display:

1. Most flat panel displays will power up in the "on" or "Stand by" state whenever AC power is connected. This feature is required for displays used with an AC power controller.

2. Many displays will power up with the last-used input automatically selected. This feature ensures that the display will be ready for the first image as soon as the TeamWork switcher detects a connected source.

3. The AC power controller will automatically turn off power to the display at the end of a collaboration session. Confirm that the selected display provides a menu setting to disable the "auto sleep" mode that may be built into the display.

FINAL THOUGHTS

The adage "measure twice, cut once" can be applied to any collaboration system roll out. Building a proof-of-concept system, before starting the installation, is a recommended "best practice." Such a sample system will allow you to fine-tune table size, height, and proximity to the display; and to select the best screen size for the collaboration space. A few hours spent prior to installation can save considerable time and money correcting usability issues after the TeamWork system is in use.

Second, a best practice in any project plan is to read the product installation manuals and setup guides before starting work. TeamWork manuals are available for download on the TeamWork 400, TeamWork 600, TeamWork 601, and TeamWork VGA Kit Web pages. Visit **www.extron.com/teamwork** for more information.