

Case Study: Panasonic Uses Intralinks VDR to Stream Videos of M&A Projects

Panasonic Corporation (Panasonic) implemented Intralinks' Virtual Data Room (VDR) as its video streaming platform to showcase M&A projects they're promoting. With on-site visits difficult to conduct with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, Panasonic has been endeavoring to provide information by recording videos of its factory equipment, etc. They determined the secure and high-capacity Intralinks VDR was the optimal solution for this, so they decided to adopt it.

The Task

Panasonic will become a holding company in 2022 so it has been proactively reviewing and reorganizing its business. In their new medium-term strategy created in 2019, Panasonic is accelerating its initiatives aimed at profit growth and improving profitability with its "Business Portfolio Reform" acting as one of its pillars of these goals. Recently, in addition to establishing joint ventures with Toyota Motor Corporation—an in-vehicle battery as well as a housing development business—Panasonic has also sold off a video surveillance, semiconductor, and a lighting device business in Europe.

With due diligence of similar M&A projects currently underway, there is an increased need for a platform to share confidential information between potential buyers and advisers; a new way of handling this was created during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"It is difficult to bring people on-site during the COVID-19 pandemic, so our company decided to create videos of things like our factory facilities and lines and make them available to other parties. However, we had to confront the problem of how we would share the videos." (Manager)

Panasonic

CUSTOMER OVERVIEW

- Company Name: Panasonic Corporation
- Established: December 1935
- Industry: Electrical equipment
- History: Dubbed the "God of Management," businessman Konosuke Matsushita established the major electrical equipment manufacturer in 1917. Reorganized into Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd. in 1935 and continuing to the present, the company grew into a manufacturer of electronic components, industrial equipment, and communication devices, and primarily centered around home appliances. The company is now also putting its efforts into electric vehicle components, smart housing, and energy management solutions; the company has grown into Japan's flagship electronics manufacturer. Its trade name was changed to the current company name in 2008.

THE CHALLENGE

- It used to be difficult to share large volumes of videos with existing cloud and email services.
- The company wanted a platform to securely share confidential information on M&A projects.
- It became difficult to have on-site tours due to the COVID-19 pandemic, so a video substitute suddenly became necessary.

BENEFITS TO ADDING INTRALINK VDR

- With this solution, they don't have to worry about capacity—even when it comes to videos—and they are immediately able to share information with clients in a variety of different locations.
- It further improved the security of confidential information-including information management after releasing any videos.

Solution

In order to solve this problem, Panasonic initially looked into recording the video data in DVDs, sending those to interested parties, and then having them send them back afterwards. However, the company decided not to use this method considering, for example, it would take a lot of time and labor to send videos of overseas factories to interested parties in various different locations, and also the risk of retrieving the DVDs being tricky. Panasonic decided to search again for a platform with which they could share a large volume of data including videos.

After careful consideration, Panasonic decided to adopt Intralinks' Virtual Data Room (VDR).

"The Intralinks VDR platform has the best track record in the industry, and we have used it at our company in the past. This platform allows you to share a large volume of video data at a low cost, and we also liked how it allows you to set viewing restrictions." (Manager)

Benefits to Adopting the Platform

By adopting Intralinks VDR, Panasonic was able to share information—even video data—securely and at a low cost.

"We have shared videos using the Intralinks VDR in several M&A projects in the past; we are able to offer factory inspections without delay with it and we

received superb reviews from potential buyers. The Intralinks VDR eliminates time lag when sharing data and reduces the cost of moving and sending physical items. We are also able to make videos available with the peace of mind that any worse-case scenarios—like videos leaking—are covered by allowing us to set our own viewing restrictions." (Manager)

Future Developments

Panasonic has used Intralinks VDR primarily for M&A projects so far but is looking to expand its usage across a variety of projects in the future.

"Panasonic is in the midst of restructuring its group business for its transition to a holding company, scheduled for April 2022. Even this sort of in-house business restructuring project requires outside advisers and sharing information, so we believe it's possible in the future there will be opportunities to utilize the platform." (Manager)

Customer Review

"Operating the Intralinks VDR is easy and intuitive; those outside of the M&A project department can put it to use right away, as well." (Manager)

About Intralinks

Intralinks is a virtual data room pioneer and a leading provider of finance technology that promotes the exchange and secures the safety of information in strategic initiatives; such as M&A, fundraisers, and investor reports . In recent years, Intralinks has leveraged its secure platform to be used as an information-sharing platform by industrial companies. With over 20 years of results, the Intralinks platform has facilitated an equivalent of more than \$35 trillion USD of financial transactions. For more information, see: www.intralinks.com/jp

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