

VICOAir™ – The VICO™ interactive table at Vienna International Airport

The visitor's center "VISITAIR Center" at Vienna International Airport fulfills the following purposes:

- Starts a dialog with the inhabitants of the surrounding areas
- Displays current information about the airport
- Explains the complex functioning and ecosystem "airport"
- Shows the economic importance of the airport, which, for instance, employs over 10.000 people

The important challenge was to create a place, in which children, senior citizens and critics but also just visitors passing through could get information about the functioning of the airport.

uma has a long experience in offering solutions in this area, and was therefore entrusted with the entire conception, design and implementation of this visitor center.

The central element of the VISITAIR Center is the VICO™ interactive table with a projection area of 2.4 x 0.9m. Its particularity lies in its intuitive manipulation and the facilitation of group collaboration. Thanks to it, users can dive in to the exciting world of the airport and explore it in an entertaining way.

The table is operated using so-called "markers". Markers are round pieces of cardboard, on which an interesting and sometimes funny motive is printed. On the

projection area of the table, the airport is represented from a bird's eye view. For each chosen topic, there is an appropriate zoom level and rendition of the airport area (map, orthophotos or topic-specific animations).

Major locations are marked with so-called "hotspots". These are bright colored areas, similar in size and shape to the aforementioned markers.

If the user lays a marker on such a point of interest, an information window will open, which gives more detailed information via text, pictures or a slideshow.



At a glance

The VICO™ interactive table in the VISITAIR Center

- Large interactive multimedia surface area
- Simple and intuitive interaction for all age groups
- Encourages collaboration
- Simultaneous interaction possible even for large groups (more than 20 people)
- Exploration of the complex airport ecosystem in an entertaining manner
- Further development of a traditional airport model enhanced with a large and extendable depth as regards content
- Selection of topics via a touch screen
- Robust design, child and handicapped-accessible height
- Extension possible with extra screens or external projections
- Simple and rapid adaptation of the contents via content management software
- Remote maintenance and support via internet

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The choice of topics and chapters can be made via a separate interface screen, which is integrated into the table. The user has five main menus at his disposal, which correspond to the various extension phases of the airport (from its creation in the 1950's to the future), and their sub-chapters, which each deal with a particular aspect of the time period (e.g. passenger and luggage routes, "skylink", traffic routes, etc.). For instance, in the chapter entitled "FANOMOS", the visitor can learn about the various flight tracks

and the noise distribution of the aircrafts, which both change according to the wind conditions and the time of day.

To reach visitors who do not want to interact actively, or are forced to stand in the "back row", two screens hang above the table, which show a short film about the currently selected chapter. Hence, passive and active learning are ensured for many target groups in an entertaining manner.

An information center is only attractive for the visitor, if the information is up-to-date and interesting. Thus, a simple content management system lies behind the VICO™ interactive table, which enables its contents to be changed or adapted very easily.

In short: The VICO™ interactive table is a perfect presentation and interaction tool for all target and age groups, displaying various depths of information content.

