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Challenges

Bridgewater State University (BSU) set out to build an innovative learning environment to support its expanding cybersecurity program and better prepare students for real-world cyber defense scenarios. The university required technology capable of delivering engaging, immersive experiences while supporting a broad range of academic and community outreach initiatives.

Solutions

BSU partnered with Sharp to install a FE 0.9mm dvLED Custom Wall measuring 217" x 86" (9x6 - 760 x 2160 resolution) as the centerpiece of its new Cyber Range within the Dana Mohler-Faria Science and Mathematics Center. The solution enables dynamic instruction, real-time collaboration, and immersive cybersecurity simulations designed to mirror real-world conditions.

Results

The Sharp video wall has become a focal point of BSU's cybersecurity program, enhancing learning experiences, attracting visitors and partners, and expanding opportunities for students, K-12 learners, businesses, and community organizations. The installation has helped position BSU as a regional leader in cybersecurity education and workforce development.

Creating an Immersive Cybersecurity Training Experience with Sharp at Bridgewater State University

As Bridgewater State University expanded its cybersecurity offerings to include new undergraduate and graduate degree programs, leadership recognized the need for a learning environment that extended beyond traditional classroom settings. Their vision was to create a state-of-the-art Cyber Range capable of replicating the pressure, complexity, and decision-making challenges faced by cybersecurity professionals every day.

Located in southeastern Massachusetts and serving more than 10,000 students, BSU has long been committed to teaching excellence and community engagement. Backed by nearly $3.8 million in state and federal funding, the Cyber Range was developed to address growing workforce demands by delivering hands-on cybersecurity training in a realistic, high-pressure environment.

Bringing Cybersecurity Training to Life

Located within the Dana Mohler-Faria Science and Mathematics Center, BSU's 1,900-square-foot Cyber Range was designed to immerse students in realistic cybersecurity scenarios. Featuring 24 training workstations, a command center, and a Sharp FE 0.9mm dvLED Custom Wall video wall, the facility serves as both a cutting-

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edge learning environment and a hub for cybersecurity innovation.

The large-format display serves as the visual centerpiece of the space, enabling instructors and students to view multiple information sources simultaneously, including cybersecurity dashboards, threat intelligence feeds, Zoom sessions, security alerts, and emergency scenarios. The video wall can be divided into multiple display windows, allowing participants to monitor and analyze several data streams in real time while responding to simulated cyber incidents.

The immersive environment extends beyond the display itself. Dynamic lighting effects, visual presentations, smoked glass elements, and sensory components work together to create realistic cybersecurity exercises that place participants in high-pressure situations. University staff often describe the experience as a “real-time ride,” helping students experience the urgency and complexity of responding to cyber threats in the real world.

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Cybersecurity Education Takes the Front Row

While the Cyber Range was developed to support BSU’s cybersecurity degree programs, its impact extends far beyond university students. The facility regularly hosts K–12 programs, summer camps, and interactive experiences that introduce younger audiences to cybersecurity careers and digital safety. In a single summer, BSU held approximately 10–12 cybersecurity camps, helping to build early interest in the field.

The university also welcomes municipalities, businesses, nonprofits, and community organizations for cybersecurity training programs and simulations, helping participants strengthen their understanding of emerging cyber threats and improve organizational preparedness. Through partnerships with organizations such as MassCyber and other educational institutions, BSU has expanded its role as a regional hub for cybersecurity education and workforce development, helping create a pipeline of skilled professionals for Massachusetts and beyond.

The Cyber Range has also become a destination for educators, industry leaders, and public officials. The facility has welcomed governors, lieutenant governors, senators, congressional representatives, and other officials eager to experience the future of cybersecurity training firsthand.



Widely regarded as one of the most advanced cyber training environments in the region, the Cyber Range has elevated BSU's visibility and reinforced its reputation as a leader in cybersecurity education, workforce development, and community engagement.

A Trusted Partner Throughout the Process

From planning through installation, Sharp worked closely with BSU, its AV contractor, and its general contractor to ensure the success of the project.

The video wall was customized to meet the university's specifications and installed in approximately five days. As one of the first components installed, it remained protected throughout several months of ongoing construction until the space was completed.

When the university was ready to activate the entire system, Sharp's display performed flawlessly.

"Sharp was a true partner throughout this project," said Bloomwald. "Their team remained highly engaged, providing guidance and support whenever needed. From installation through operation, the process was remarkably smooth with virtually no issues. In the context of a much larger construction effort, the AV installation was one of the easiest and most seamless parts of the project."

Today, the Sharp video wall sits at the center of one of the region's most advanced cyber training environments, helping BSU equip students, professionals, and community partners to navigate an increasingly complex threat landscape.

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