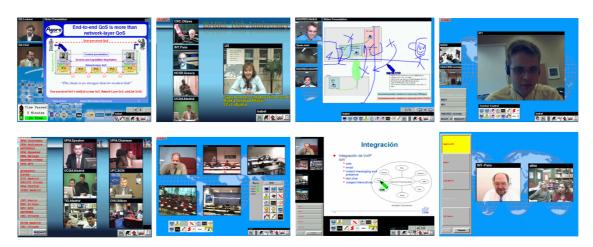
Isabel: una nueva forma de colaborar

Isabel: a new way of collaborating

Juan Quemada, DIT - UPM

Isabel (http://www.agora-2000.com) is a multipoint group collaboration tool which provides an effective management of multipoint session, by combining TV production techniques which provide a uniform visual message to all participants, with an innovative floor control mechanism which enables an ordered intervention of the participants. Participants of an Isabel session will be able to share applications, perform presentations, order questions, perform distributed panel discussion, use a blackboard, etc. The following figure illustrates typical configurations.



Isabel runs on a plain PC and incorporates an MCU (multipoint unit) in every terminal, allowing the realisation of multipoint sessions without the need of the costly VC multipoint control units (MCUs). Isabel terminals run over the broadband Internet (with unicast, multicast, IPv4/IPv6, ..) reducing connectivity costs. Isabel PCs can be used for room conferencing or desktop conferencing.

Isabel is a proven solution which has been used to perform during the lasts years in a large number of distributed meetings, classrooms or conferences, which have been organised with speakers and participants fully distributed over the Internet, like for example, the IPv6 Global Summits, Music-Grid, the Internet NG Conference or the Vodafone distributed Master Program. The proper use of Isabel minimizes travel of persons, allows timely organization of meetings as needed, reduces activity lead times and increases the overall productivity.

The talk will describe the most relevant collaborative events performed with Isabel, such as, the distributed "IBA" course among Spanish Universities, the Telecom I+D and the Internet NG distributed conferences.