
Bitrix Intranet Portal

**Videoconferencing.
Installation And Usage Guide**

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Introduction

This manual is for users and developers of Intranet portals powered by Bitrix Intranet Portal. The document describes basic procedures required to set up and configure the videoconferencing modules and the Videoport's video server. Finally, the problem of creation and usage of the videoconferencing user interface is thoroughly discussed.

Should you have any questions installing or using Bitrix Intranet Portal or videoconferencing services, contact the Bitrix [Helpdesk Service](#).

Chapter 1.

General Information

Any edition of Bitrix Intranet Portal is capable of establishing video calls between multiple subscribers simultaneously which technique is also known as *videoconferencing*. This feature requires that you purchase as many licenses as required by your organization: for number of subscribers and for numbers of videoconferences.

Currently, videoconferencing is supported on Windows computers only. A [Videoport's video call server](#) is also required.

The following requirements apply to Bitrix Intranet Portal videoconferencing.

- The **Videoconferencing** and **Videoport** modules need to be installed.

<p>Note: Bitrix Intranet Portal version 9.0 and later comes with these modules preinstalled. However, if you have earlier version of Bitrix Intranet Portal, you will have to install these modules manually.</p>
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- The Videoport's video server must be installed and properly configured

The Videoport's video server requires a trial or commercial key to run. The trial version has the following limitations:

- the trial key is valid for two weeks;
- only one videoconferencing session is allowed whose duration is limited to 15;
- when the key expires, videoconferencing is no longer possible. However, personal video calls can be made;
- the trial version requires Internet connection to install and run (the commercial version needs Internet connection only at the installation time);
- the trial key is hardware dependent and cannot be used on another machine.

The Bitrix Intranet Portal's **Videoconferencing** module must be properly configured.

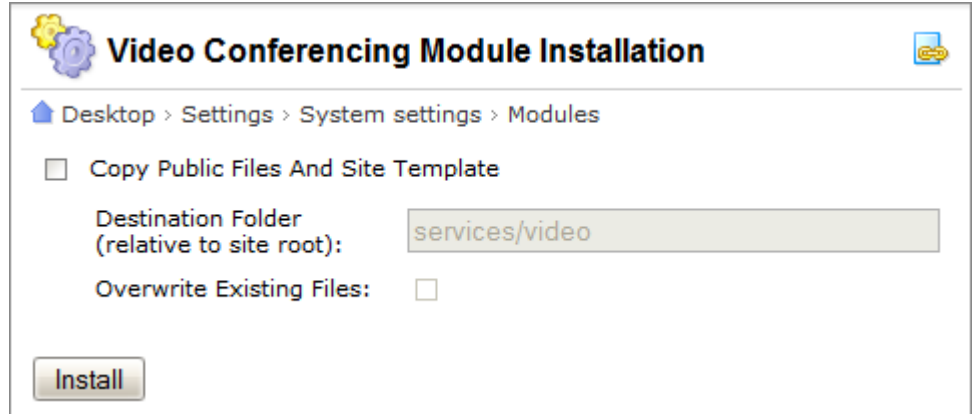
Chapter 2.

Configuring Your Bitrix Intranet Portal For Videoconferencing

If you have Bitrix Intranet Portal version prior to 9.0, you will have to install the essential modules manually.

Installing The Modules

- ❑ Open the **Module Management** form (*Settings > System Settings > Modules*).
- ❑ Click **Install** for the **Videoconferencing** and **Videoport** modules.
- ❑ The **Videoconferencing** module requires additional adjustment (fig. 2.1):



The screenshot shows the 'Video Conferencing Module Installation' form. At the top, there is a gear icon and the title 'Video Conferencing Module Installation'. Below the title is a breadcrumb trail: 'Desktop > Settings > System settings > Modules'. There are three main options: a checkbox for 'Copy Public Files And Site Template', a text input field for 'Destination Folder (relative to site root):' containing the value 'services/video', and a checkbox for 'Overwrite Existing Files:'. At the bottom left, there is an 'Install' button.

Fig. 2.1 Configuration of the Videoconferencing module installation

- ❑ To add the videoconferencing commands to the public section menus, check the **Copy Public Files And Site Template** option.
- ❑ Specify the destination folder.
- ❑ If you reinstall the module, the Overwrite Existing Files option may help to resolve errors if any had been encountered.

Installing The Videoport Video Server

After the modules have been added, the video server must be installed.

- ❑ [Download](#) the video server package from the Videoport website.
- ❑ Follow the installation wizard instructions to install the video server. You will need a trial or commercial key to complete the installation.
 - Click here to obtain the [trial](#) key.
 - Click here to obtain the [commercial](#) key.

Having installed the server software, run **VideoPort VCS Manager**. Create the guest connection key:

- ❑ Open the **Applications** tab.
- ❑ Click **Guest User Code Word** button and enter the key name (fig. 2.2):

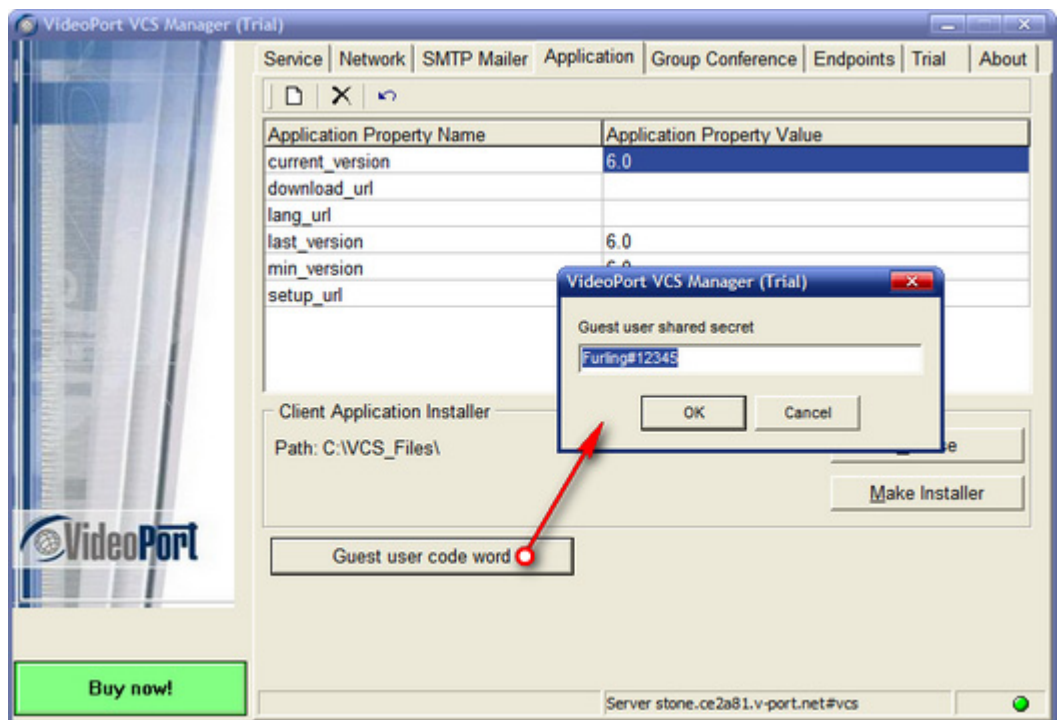


Fig. 2.2 Creating the guest connection key

- ❑ Restart the video server.

Note: you will find extensive documentation on **VideoPort VCS** at the [Videoport](#) website.

Configuring The Videoconferencing Module

The **Videoconferencing** module requires that you provide the video server address and the port number. To obtain these values, open VideoPort VCS Manager and click the **Network** tab:

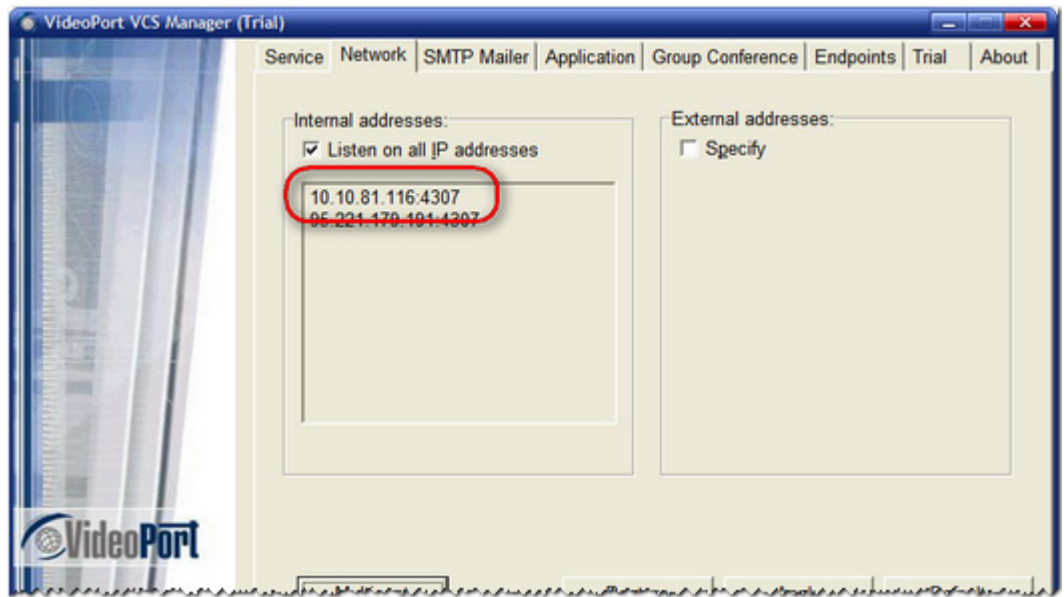


Fig. 2.3 Network parameters in VideoPort VCS Manager

- Now, open the **Videoconferencing** module settings page (*Settings > System Settings > Module Settings > Videoconferencing*) and click the **Videoport** tab.

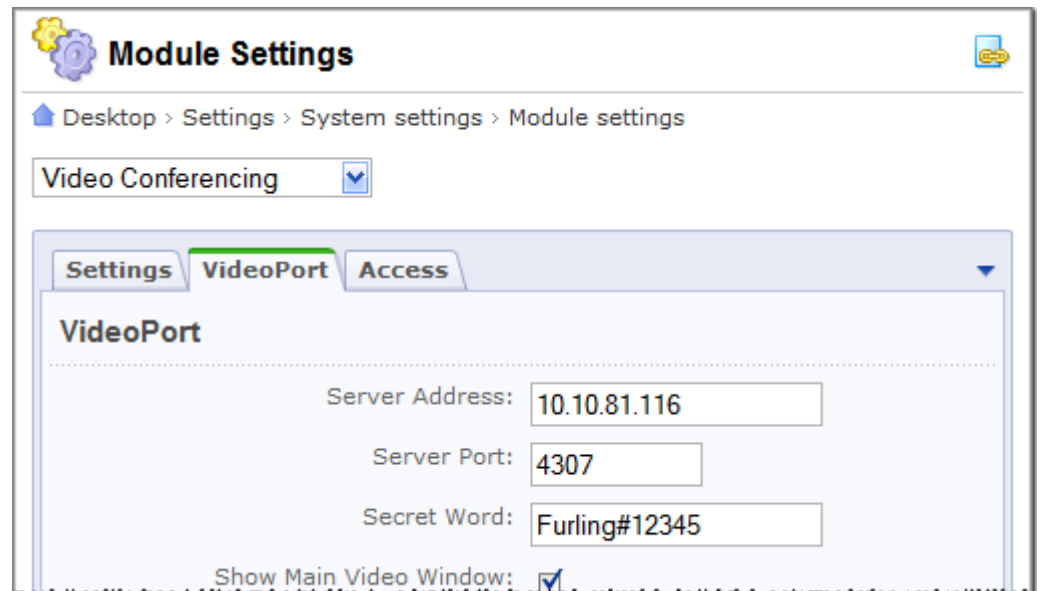


Fig. 2.4 The Videoconferencing module parameters

- Type the server address and the server port in the corresponding fields.
- In the **Secret Word** field, enter the key you have previously specified as the guest connection key (fig. 2.2).
- Finally, open the **Settings** tab and select user groups whose members you want to allow to make video calls.

Designing The Videoconferencing User Interface

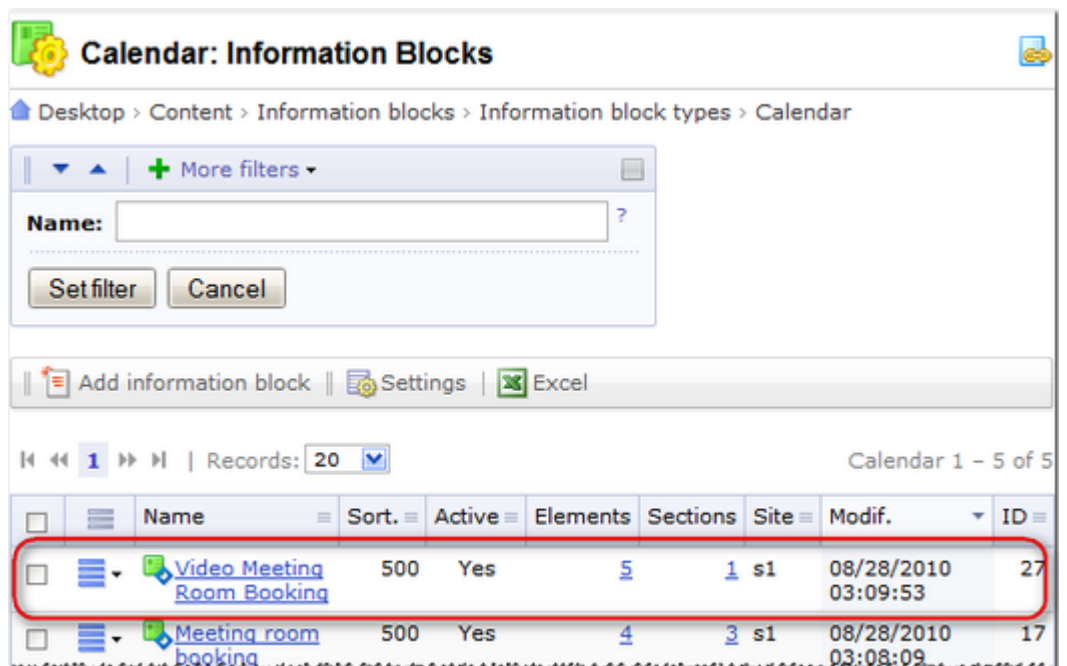
Generally, the following three simple steps need to be done to set up well organized, scheduled videoconferencing at your portal:

- create a new information block type and a new information block of that type;
- create a new site section and pages in it to provide videoconferencing functions. The simplest way to create videoconferencing pages is by using the videoconferencing components;
- properly configure the **Social Network** module components in order to enable people to use video calls.

Creating The Information Block

The **Information Blocks** module provides built-in support for event calendars and their use in videoconferencing.

- Create a new information block type and name it “Calendar”. Then, create a new information block of that type and name it, for example, “Video Meeting Room Reservation” (fig. 2.5).



	Name	Sort.	Active	Elements	Sections	Site	Modif.	ID
<input type="checkbox"/>	Video Meeting Room Booking	500	Yes	5	1 s1	08/28/2010 03:09:53	27	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Meeting room booking	500	Yes	4	3 s1	08/28/2010 03:08:09	17	

Fig. 2.5 The “Video Meeting Room Reservation” information block (highlighted)

In this information block, the sections are the video meeting rooms, and the elements are the reservations (i.e. designated meeting times).

Creating User Interface For The Public Section

The public user interface is almost one-click procedure. All you need is the components which can be found under the *Services > Videoconferencing* folder in the visual editor components bar.

Follow the instructions below to create the videoconferencing user interface.

- ❑ Create a new public section. For example, a **Video Conference** subsection in **Services** would look quite reasonable.
- ❑ Create a **index.php** file in the new section and add the **Video Conferences** component (**bitrix:video**) to it. This component will display available conferences (fig. 2.6).

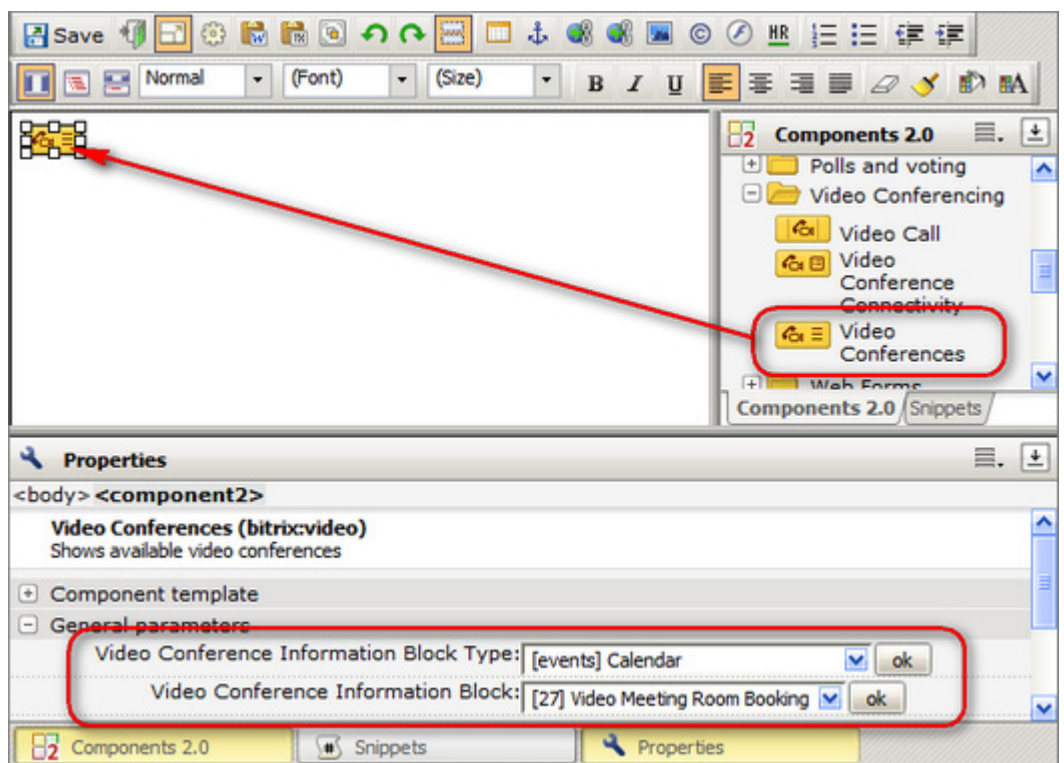


Fig. 2.6 Adding the Video Conferences component

- ❑ Set the component parameters (fig. 2.7).
 - Select the information block type you have previously created (“Calendar”), and then select the information block for use with videoconferencing (“Video Meeting Room Reservation”).
 - Remember the filename of the videoconferencing page – you will create it at the next step.

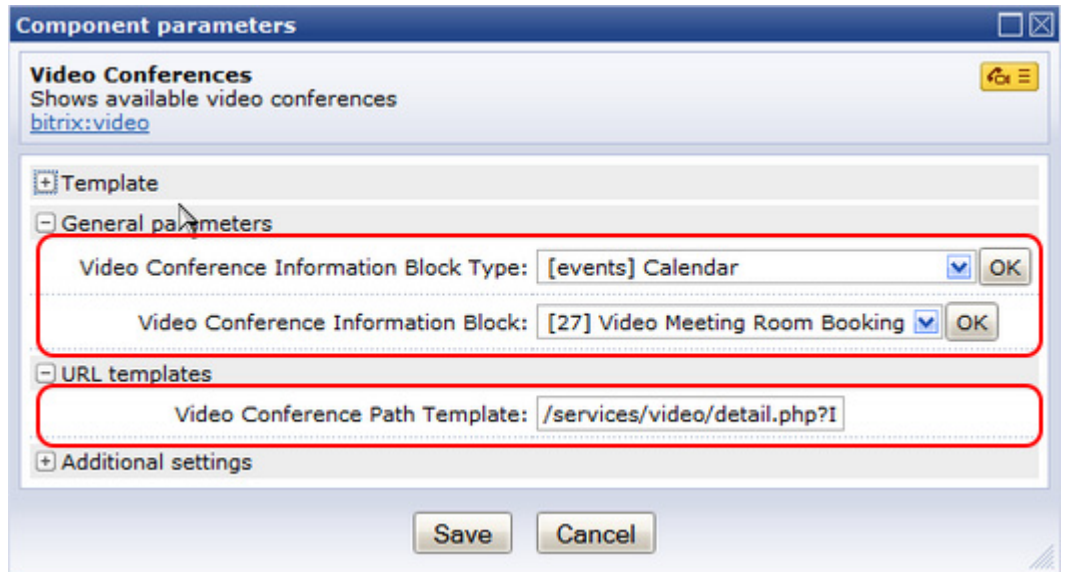


Fig. 2.7 The Video Conferences component parameters

- Configure other parameters as required and save the page.

Note: you will find the detailed description of parameters of this component in [Appendix A](#).

- Create a new page in the same section and add the **Video Conference Connectivity** component to it. This component implements all the functions required to initiate and run a conference (fig. 2.8):

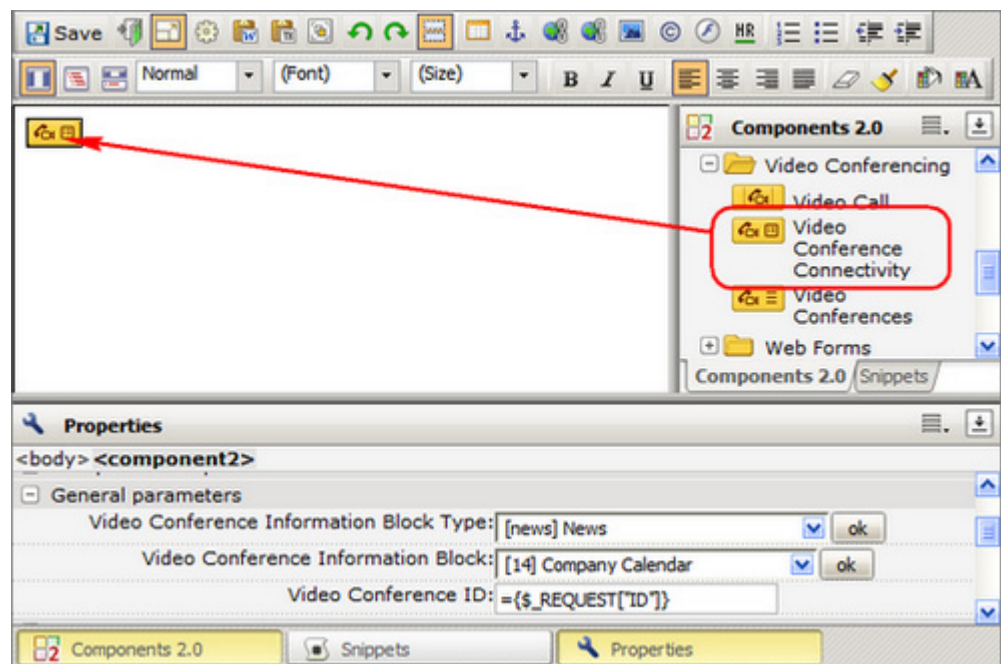


Fig. 2.8 Adding the Video Conference Connectivity component

- ❑ Set the component parameters (fig. 2.9):

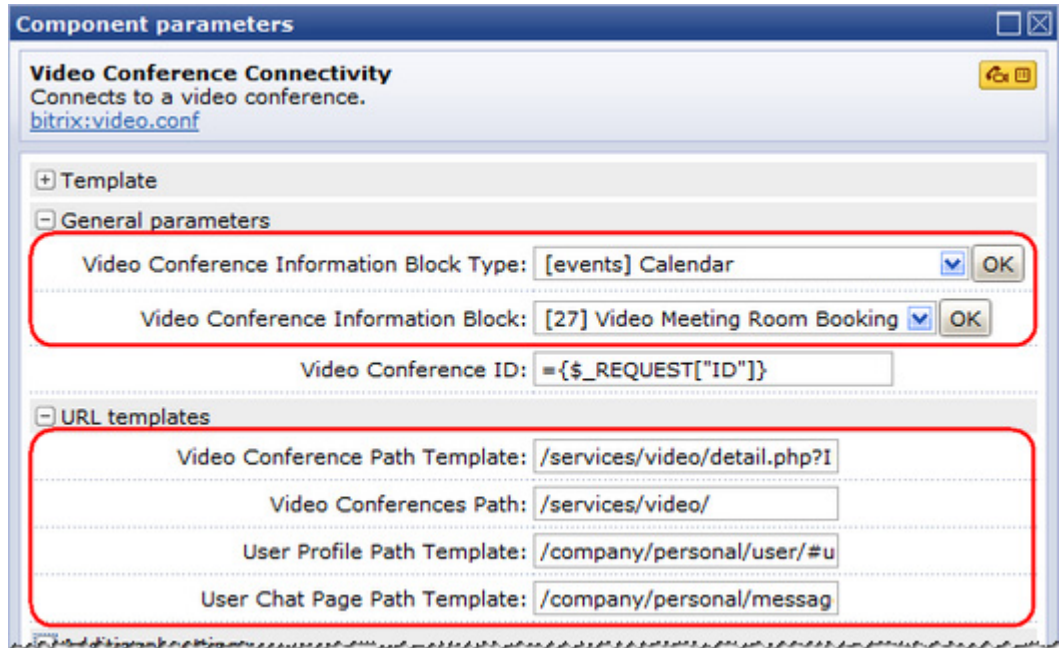


Fig. 2.9 The Video Conference Connectivity component parameters

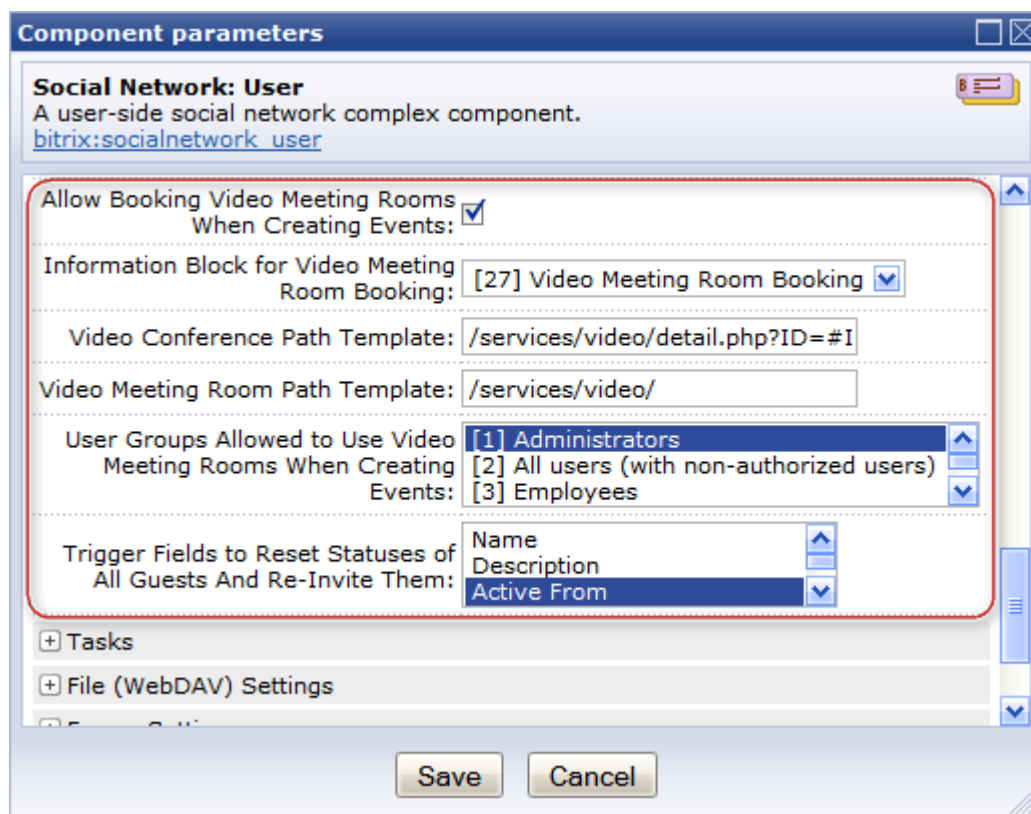
- select the same information block type and the information block as in the Video Conferences component parameters (fig. 2.7);
 - edit the page URL templates if required.
- ❑ Configure other parameters as required and save the page under the name specified earlier (fig. 2.7).

Note: you will find the detailed description of parameters of this component in Appendix on page 23.

Configuring The Social Network Composite Components

In the previous two stages, we have created the user interface allowing the portal users to establish video calls. However, additional configuration is required to be performed on the **Social Network** module components which will effectively enable videoconferencing features for the users.

- ❑ In **Design** mode, open the personal page of any user.
- ❑ Bring up the settings dialog of the **Social Network: User** component.



Component parameters

Social Network: User
 A user-side social network complex component.
[bitrix:socialnetwork user](#)

Allow Booking Video Meeting Rooms When Creating Events:

Information Block for Video Meeting Room Booking: [27] Video Meeting Room Booking

Video Conference Path Template: /services/video/detail.php?ID=#I

Video Meeting Room Path Template: /services/video/

User Groups Allowed to Use Video Meeting Rooms When Creating Events: [1] Administrators, [2] All users (with non-authorized users), [3] Employees

Trigger Fields to Reset Statuses of All Guests And Re-Invite Them: Name, Description, Active From

+ Tasks

+ File (WebDAV) Settings

Save Cancel

Fig. 2.10 The Social Network: User component parameters

- ❑ In the **Event Calendar Settings** group, select the “Video Meeting Room Reservation” information block (fig. 2.10).
- ❑ In the **Video Conference Path Template** field, specify the path to the page to which the **Video Conference Connectivity** component was added (**detail.php**).
- ❑ In the **Video Meeting Room Path Template** field, specify the path to the page containing the **Video Conferences** component (**index.php**; as you can see, this can be omitted since *index.php* in the default page filename).
- ❑ Now, configure the social network workgroup composite component (**Social Network: Groups**) in the same way.

Chapter 3.

Setting Up The Video Conference

In order to use the videoconferencing features, the company employees have to:

- plug in and adjust a web camera;
- install a special web client to their web browsers.

Connecting A Web Camera

To enjoy video during the conference, an employee needs to get and connect a web camera to their computer. Participation is also possible in voice only mode (with a microphone), or in chat mode if no media hardware is available.

The camera type or model is of no great importance. The camera must be fully operational and function properly.

Installing The Web Client Plug-in

A special web browser plugin is required to perform videoconferencing procedures. Bitrix Intranet Portal fully supports this plug-in in **Internet Explorer** and **Mozilla FireFox**. Experience shows that videoconferencing runs smooth in **Opera**, **Google Chrome** and **Safari** as well.

The web browser will install the plug-in the first time a video call or a videoconferencing attempt is made.

Installing The Plug-in in Internet Explorer

The web client plug-in will be installed automatically (fig. 3.1):

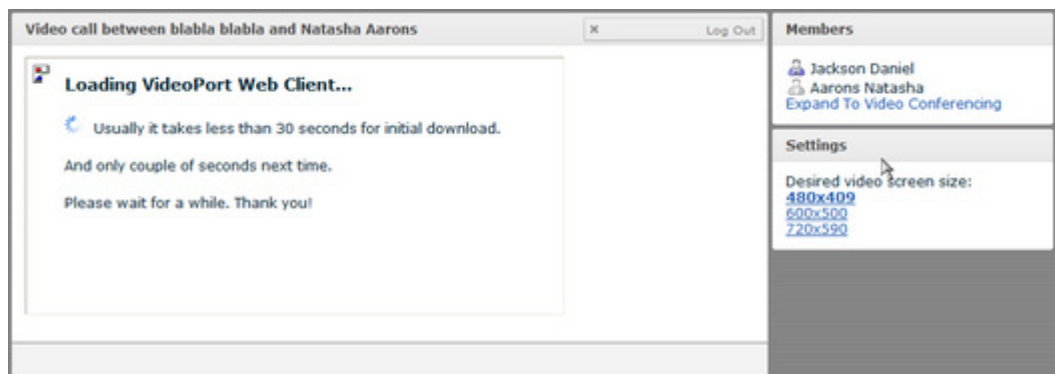


Fig. 3.1 Internet Explorer attempting to install the web client plug-in

After the plug-in file is loaded, Internet Explorer will show a standard security alert bar on top of the browser screen. Right-click it and select **Install This Add-on for All Users on This Computer** in the menu. Then, click **Install** in **Security Warning** dialog box. The system will install the web client and restart the conference.

Installing The Plug-in in Mozilla FireFox, Opera, Google Chrome and Safari

These browsers simply display instructions when you attempt to make a video call or answer someone's call the for the first time (fig. 3.2):

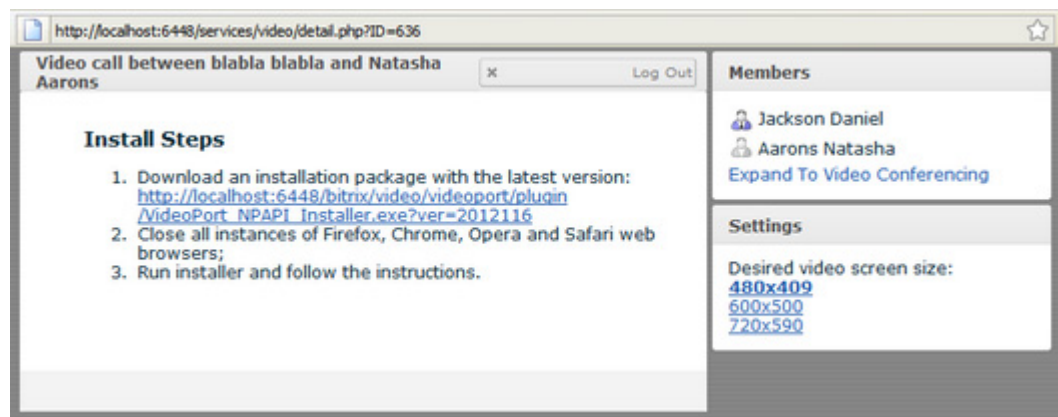


Fig. 3.2 Mozilla FireFox displaying installation steps

- Download the web client installer.
- Close all the browser windows of all browsers.
- Run the installer; install the plug-in.
- Run the browser again. The videoconferences and video calls are now available.

Updating The Plug-in

The videoconferencing plug-ins are regularly updated. Your web browser will notify you as soon as update is available. Update the plug-in just as you were installing it.

Videoconferencing Room User Interface

The videoconferencing room user interface contains the three main areas (fig. 3.3):



Fig. 3.3 The videoconferencing room / video call elements

- the video image area (1);
- the conference members list (2);
- the parameters pane (3);
- for group conferences only: group information.

The Video Image Area

This region includes the following parts (fig. 3.4):

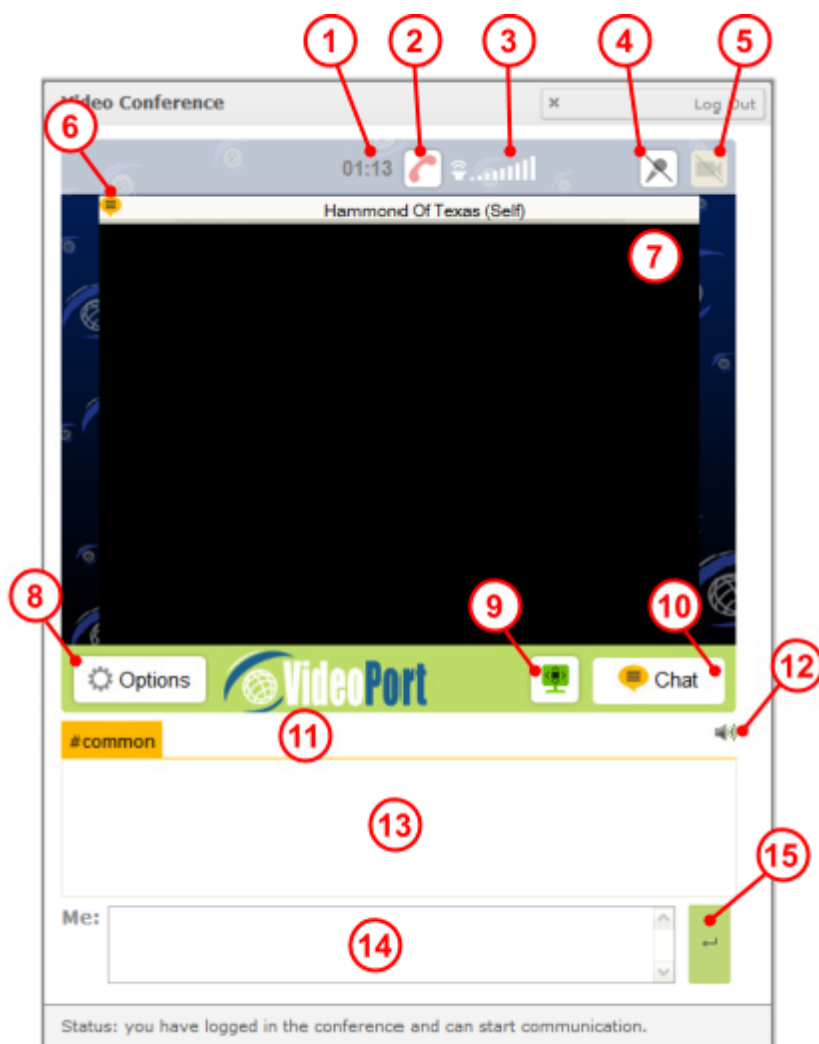


Fig. 3.4 The video image area

- 1 – shows current call duration;
- 2 – ends the current communication session;
- 3 – adjusts the sound volume;
- 4 – mutes the microphone;
- 5 – turns off the web camera;
- 6 – opens the chat window;
- 7 – main video area;
- 8 – opens the settings pane;
- 9 – switches to fullscreen mode;
- 10 – opens the chat window;
- 11 – shows the chat participants;
- 12 – toggles the chat sounds on or off;
- 13 – the chat message log;
- 14 – the chat text input box;
- 15 – sends the text in 14 to the chat.

The button **8** opens the video call settings menu (fig. 3.5):

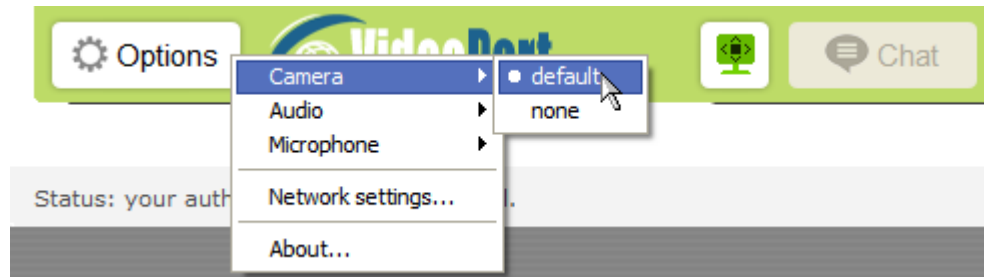


Fig. 3.5 The video call parameters menu

The first three submenus allow to select devices that will be used for communication.

The network settings dialog is intended only for system administrators. Common users should not change these parameters (fig. 3.6).

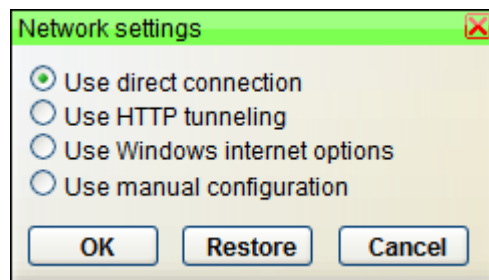


Fig. 3.6 The video call network settings

The Conference Members

This area shows persons currently communicating within the conference session.

- The caller's name is shown in **blue**.
- The invited person's name is shown in **green** if the person is online. Otherwise, it is shown in **grey**.

The Parameters Pane

This area allows to change the video screen size.

Videoconferencing User Interface

In videoconferencing mode, the user interface is somewhat different to that of the video call (fig. 3.7):

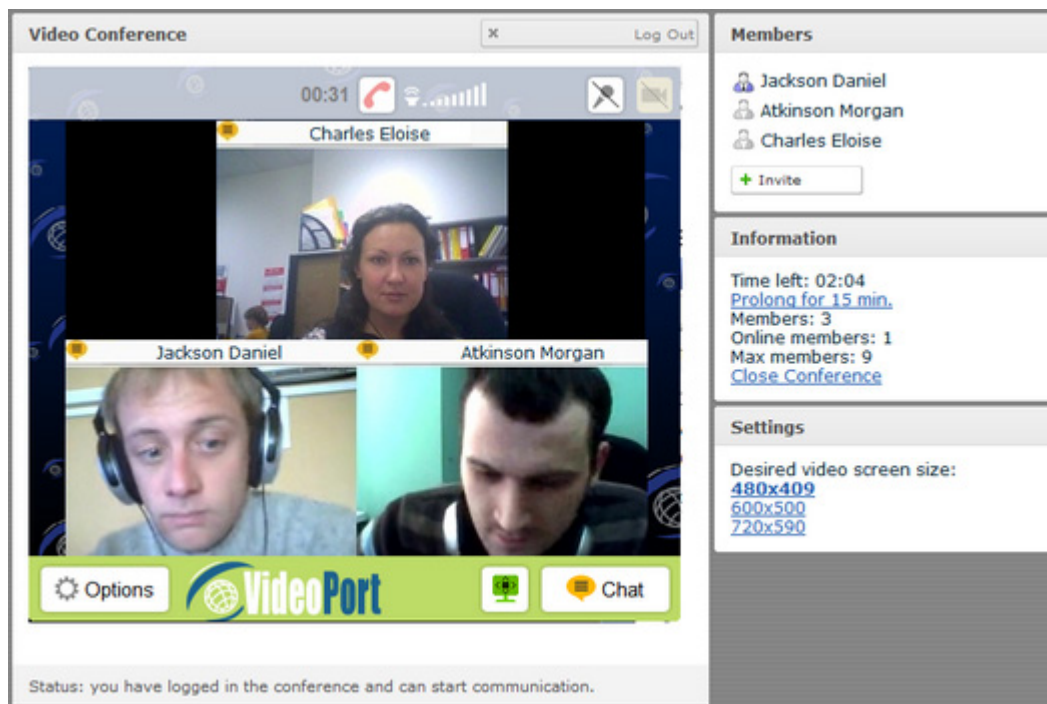


Fig. 3.7 The videoconferencing user interface elements

In this mode, the video screen is divided into areas to accommodate all the active participants.

The **Members** area contains a command button allowing to invite new conference parties (fig. 3.8):

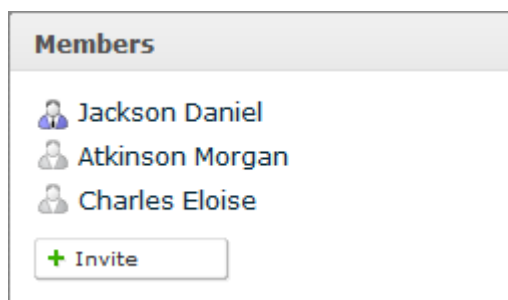


Fig. 3.8 The participants list

A new area appears in videoconferencing mode: **Information** (fig. 3.9):

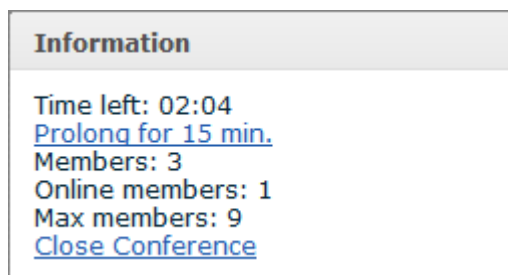


Fig. 3.9 The information area

Using Video Communications

Using visual communication is slightly different depending on the mode and the direction of call:

- you are the caller;
- you are the callee;
- you are making a videoconferencing session.

You Are The Caller: Making A Call

- ❑ Open the personal page of a user with whom you want to establish a video conversation session, or find a user in the employee list.
- ❑ Click the **Video Call** link (fig. 3.10):

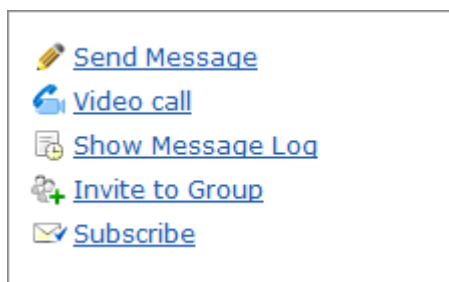


Fig. 3.10 Initialiting a video call

- ❑ Wait for the reply.

You Are The Callee: Answering A Call

Whenever you are receiving a call, you are notified via the portal instant messenger (fig. 3.11). To “pick up the phone”, just click **Accept**.

If you are not notified for some reason, you can answer the call by clicking the **Video Call** link in the caller’s user details.

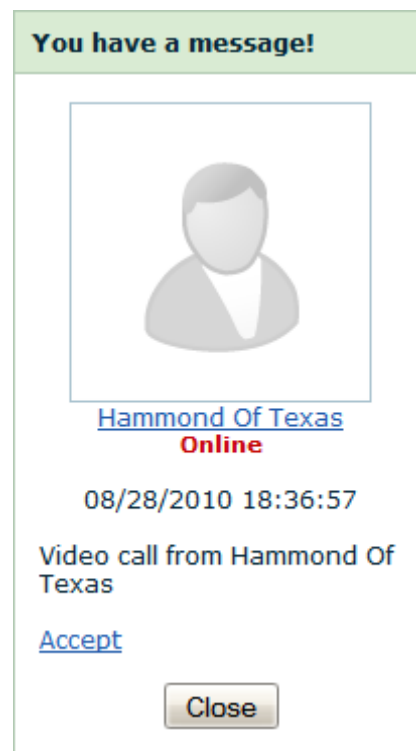


Fig. 3.11 Video call notification

Videoconferencing

Only a person initialing the call can start a videoconferencing session, invite other users and prolong it is required.

To start the video conference explicitly, without planning it in the event calendar, make a video call to one of the proposed conference members. Now, in the video call window:

- Click **Expand To Video Conferencing** in the **Members** area. The call will be transformed into a conference, showing the **Invite** button:

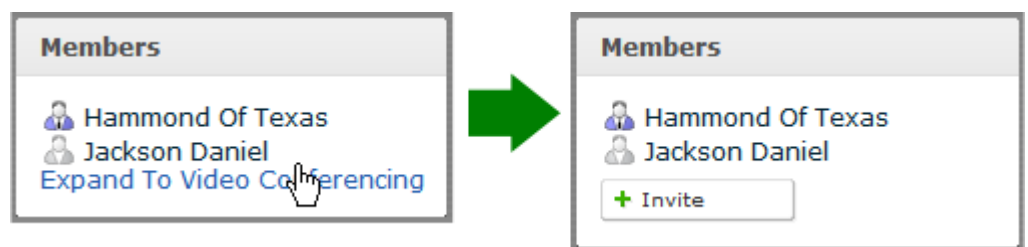


Fig. 3.12 Turning a video call into a conference

- Click **Invite** to bring up the company structure tree (fig. 3.13):

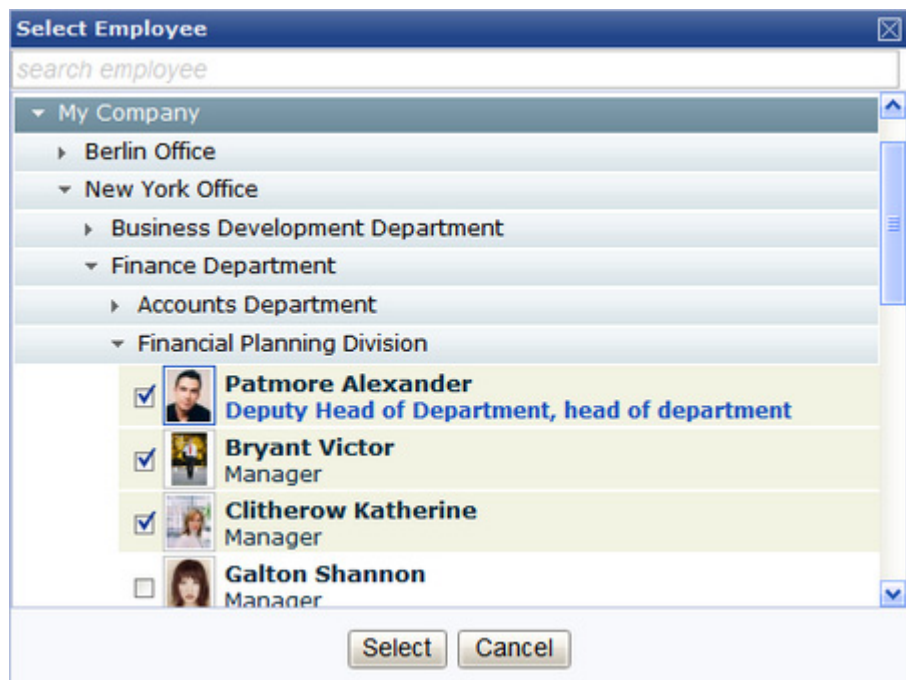


Fig. 3.13 Selecting conversation parties in the company structure

- Mark the persons you want to invite and click **Select**.

Finishing The Call

To end the video call, simply close the video call window. To end the videoconference, click **Close Conference**.

Appendix A.

Videoconferencing Component Specification

Video Call Component (bitrix:video.call)

This component implements video call functionality (as shown on fig. 3.3). It is a standard component included in the distribution package.

Usage Example

```
<?APPLICATION->IncludeComponent("bitrix:video.call","",Array(
    "IBLOCK_TYPE" => "events",
    "IBLOCK_ID" => "27",
    "USER_ID" => "",
    "PATH_TO_VIDEO_CALL" => "/services/video/detail.php?ID=#ID#",
    "SET_TITLE" => "Y"
),
);?>
```

Parameters

Field	Key	Description
General Parameters		
Videoconferencing information block type	IBLOCK_TYPE	Specifies the information block type dedicated especially to videoconferencing.
Videoconferencing information block	IBLOCK_ID	Specifies the ID of information block dedicated to storing videoconferences.
User ID	USER_ID	Specifies the callee's user ID. Optional.
Path Templates		
Video call template	PATH_TO_VIDEO_CALL	Specifies the pathname of the page on which videoconferencing occurs. Usually it is the page containing this (bitrix:video.call) component.
Additional Parameters		
Page title toggle	SET_TITLE	[Y N] If set to "Y", the page title will be set to "Video Call" or "Video Conference".

Video Conference Connectivity Component (bitrix:video.conf)

This components connects a user to any active videoconference. It is a standard component included in the distribution package.

Usage Example

```
<?APPLICATION->IncludeComponent("bitrix:video.conf","",Array(
    "IBLOCK_TYPE" => "events",
    "IBLOCK_ID" => "27",
    "ID" => $_REQUEST["ID"],
    "PATH_TO_VIDEO_CONF" => "/services/video/detail.php?ID=#ID#",
    "PATH_TO_VIDEO_LIST" => "/services/video/",
    "PATH_TO_USER" => "/company/personal/user/#user_id#",
    "PATH_TO_MESSAGES_CHAT" => "/company/personal/messages/chat/#user_id#",
    "SET_TITLE" => "Y"
),
);?>
```

Parameters

Field	Key	Description
General Parameters		
Videoconferencing information block type	IBLOCK_TYPE	Specifies the information block type dedicated especially to videoconferencing.
Videoconferencing information block	IBLOCK_ID	Specifies the ID of information block dedicated to storing videoconferences.
Videoconference ID	ID	Specifies the current videoconference ID.
Path Templates		
Videoconference page template	PATH_TO_VIDEO_CONF	Specifies the pathname of the page on which videoconferencing occurs. Usually it is the page containing the bitrix:video.call component.
Videoconferences page template	PATH_TO_VIDEO_LIST	Specifies the pathname of the page containing available videoconferences.
User personal page template	PATH_TO_USER	Specifies the pathname of the user's personal page.
User personal messaging page template	PATH_TO_MESSAGES_CHAT	Specifies the pathname of the user's messaging page.
Additional Parameters		
Page title toggle	SET_TITLE	[Y N] If set to "Y", the page title will be set to "Video Conference".

Video Conferences Component (bitrix:video)

This components displays currently available videoconferences. It is a standard component included in the distribution package.

Usage Example

```
<?APPLICATION->IncludeComponent("bitrix:video","",Array(
    "IBLOCK_TYPE" => "events",
    "IBLOCK_ID" => "27",
    "PATH_TO_VIDEO_CONF" => "/services/video/detail.php?ID=#ID#",
    "SET_TITLE" => "Y"
),
);?>
```

Parameters

Field	Key	Description
General Parameters		
Videoconferencing information block type	IBLOCK_TYPE	Specifies the information block type dedicated especially to videoconferencing.
Videoconferencing information block	IBLOCK_ID	Specifies the ID of information block dedicated to storing videoconferences.
Path Templates		
Videoconference page template	PATH_TO_VIDEO_CONF	Specifies the pathname of the page on which videoconferencing occurs. Usually it is the page containing the bitrix:video.call component.
Additional Parameters		
Page title toggle	SET_TITLE	[Y N] If set to "Y", the page title will be set to "Video Conference".

Final Notes

This document has touched upon main steps required to set up videoconferencing services on the Intranet portal.

You can ask your questions at the Bitrix corporate forum:

<http://dev.bitrixsoft.com/community/forums/>

Should you have any difficulty using Bitrix software, do not hesitate to send a request to the technical support service:

<http://dev.bitrixsoft.com/support/>