

**SWITCHcast in successful use – top-grade references**

Several eminent universities, such as those of Berne, St.Gallen and Zurich, as well as the Zurich University of Applied Sciences, are already using SWITCHcast for selected projects.

Would you also like to start building up initial experience? If so, the best course of action is to make use of our special demonstration offer.

**Now is the time to test SWITCHcast for sixty days entirely free-of-charge.**

We are offering you the opportunity to test SWITCHcast for two months free-of-charge, and without any commitment on your part. If you like, we can lend you the necessary hardware. We will also provide you with training in the use of the hardware and software and will share valuable tips and tricks for successful recordings with you. Interested? Then please send us the attached reply card.

**SWITCH – the Swiss universities' foundation**

As the operator of the Swiss academic network, SWITCH guarantees all those connected with the universities round-the-clock access to the information society and promotes the use of the latest teleinformatic methods available in the service of teaching and research.

In moving towards the virtual society, SWITCHcast is opening up entirely new prospects for lecturers and students.

**How today's students attend lectures**  
Using SWITCHcast via the Internet



**SWITCH**  
Serving Swiss Universities



SWITCH  
P.O. Box, CH-8021 Zurich  
Telephone +41 44 268 15 01  
Fax +41 44 268 15 68  
cast@switch.ch  
www.switch.ch/cast

## The academic community on the threshold of a new age

*Students, researchers and lecturers are becoming more and more mobile all the time. They find themselves working in international project groups, they attend courses away from their home campus and they spend much of their time travelling.*

*The needs of today's students (the 'iPhone generation') are changing. Mobile learning, at no fixed place and no fixed time, is becoming ever more important for them. Virtual worlds are growing in significance, and they are increasingly being put to productive use.*

### SWITCHcast – The world as your lecture theatre

Once again, SWITCH has taken a decisive step towards making the vision of a virtual community into a reality. SWITCHcast is creating the preconditions for students to attend lectures and other contact events whenever, wherever and as often as they want to by using their iPod or laptop and the Internet.

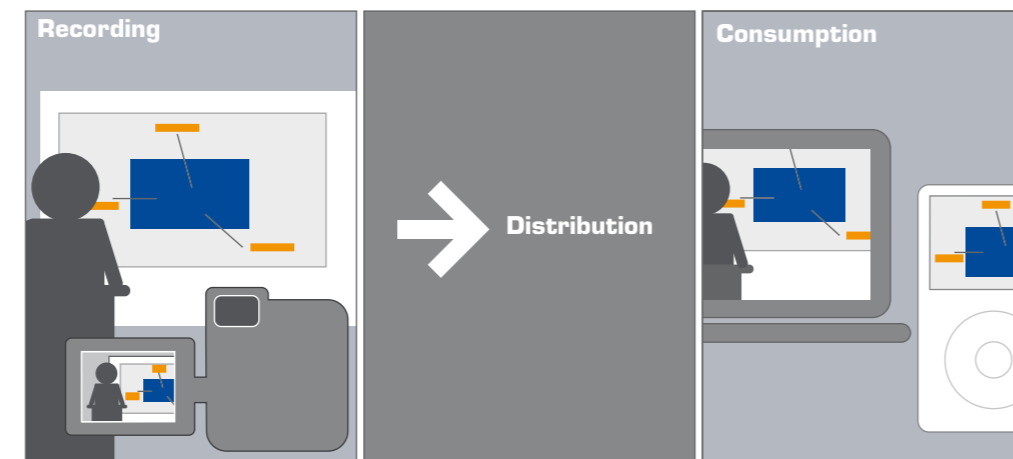
SWITCHcast is a sophisticated video management system, by means of which lecturers can very simply record their lectures, post-process them, upload them to a central server and make them available to students via the internet using leased channels – both as online streams and as downloads for offline use.

### SWITCHcast – It couldn't be simpler.

Everything you need for SWITCHcast (software, hardware and channels) is provided by SWITCH either free-of-charge or at attractive conditions – and that includes individual advice, internal training and professional support.

During a semester, a channel can be used for the distribution of an unlimited volume of recordings from a series of lectures or an individual, one-off event. This is possible in various formats, and the recorded material can remain available for a period of three calendar years.

What it will all cost depends on the number of server channels occupied (price details and a special promotional offer are to be found at [www.switch.ch/cast](http://www.switch.ch/cast)).



## SWITCHcast – the details

### How does SWITCHcast work?

#### Recording

The video and audio data and the lecture slides are recorded locally using software provided free-of-charge. This can be done either manually or fully automatically.

What you need for this purpose are:

- an Apple Mac computer with Intel processor (MacMini, MacBook, MacBook Pro, Mac Pro, iMac) with min. 1 GB RAM or more
- Mac OS X 10.5.4 or higher
- SWITCH's free recorder software
- a video camera (firewire-compatible)
- a microphone or other audio source
- an 'Epiphan' frame grabber (optional, only essential for fully automated recordings)

#### Distribution

Once the recording has been completed, the data is made available for consumption via an internet link, using a channel on SWITCH's streaming server. Once the sequences produced have been transferred to the server, they can be post-processed and edited as necessary. It is possible to offer the recordings in the following formats:

- QuickTime (offline)
- Podcast (offline)
- Flash (online)

Authenticated users are allowed to open chargeable channels for storing an unlimited volume of recorded data from a series of lectures or from a single event. In the course of any one semester, a channel can be used to save an unlimited volume of recordings from a series of lectures. If a series of lectures is longer than a semester, it is necessary to open a new channel for each additional semester. To make parallel recordings of an event (such as a conference) a separate channel is required for each source. Channels saved on the server remain available there for a period of three calendar years.

#### Consumption

When owners open channels, they choose one of three access options for consumption:

- Public: accessible for all internet users
- Restricted: accessible only for others belonging to the same organisation as the owner
- Private: accessible only for those with owner authorisation

Depending on the formats chosen, it is possible for the channel contents to be consumed both online and offline (at a time when no internet connection is available). In the case of offline use, the recording is downloaded from the streaming server and can then be consumed at any time and placed on a computer or an MP3 player with video capability. Online consumption is also possible at any time; the only precondition is that there must be an active internet connection.

#### Administration

Those users who have opened channels (i.e. their owners) have various means available to them for administering them:

- Producing, processing, saving and deleting content in the channel
- Defining the graphic layout at the time of creation
- Determining the media formats at the time of creation
- Setting up, changing and deleting access rights
- Adding other individuals with owner authorisations

Access to SWITCH's streaming server is password-protected. This applies to both production (opening and administering the channel, uploading recorded content, etc.) and consumption.

**SWITCH** > cast

[www.switch.ch/cast](http://www.switch.ch/cast)