

# **Introduction to Isabel 4.9 and documentation overview**



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Introduction to Isabel	
(Isabel 4.9)	
November 2005	

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# 1. Introduction

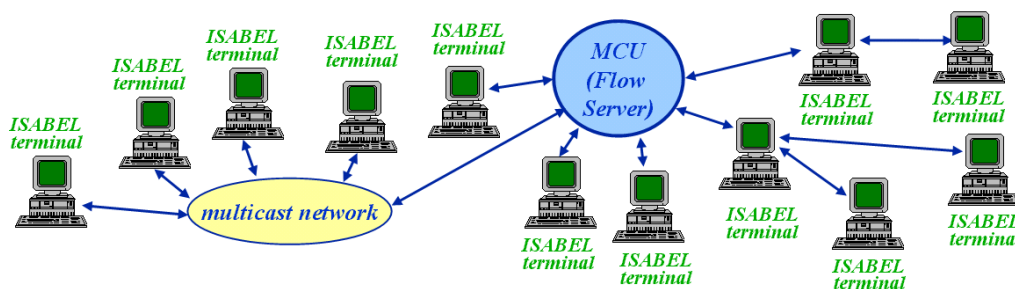
ISABEL is a **group collaboration tool for the Internet** which allows efficient organisation of working procedures over private VPNs, the public Internet or the next generation Internet, allowing timely organization of meetings or training sessions. The use of ISABEL leads to a productivity increase and reduction of lead times in organizations, groups or projects.

ISABEL uses an **innovative service concept**, which adapts collaboration sessions to the user needs, including various service definitions. Each service supports the specific behaviours of a given set of users, having specialized support for:

- Tele-meeting: for project and corporate meetings.
- Tele-class: for corporate training or distance learning.
- Tele-conference: for congresses, workshops or large corporate meetings.
- Tailored services for specific needs of a customer.




Isabel uses TCP-UDP over IPv4 and IPv6, supporting a rich variety of mixtures of networking technologies, such as LANs, ATM, ISDN, Frame Relay, satellite, etc.



ISABEL has several distinguishing features over standard videoconferencing. It is a software technology which transforms a PC into advanced conferencing terminals or Multipoint Control Units (MCU). ISABEL terminals include an MCU to connect other terminals to a session.


Characteristics of Isabel collaboration platforms:

- **Multipoint audio/video/data conferencing:** with effective session management.

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- **Software Multipoint Control Unit (MCU):** MCU included in each Isabel terminal, allowing flexible and affordable multipoint collaboration platforms.
- **Seamless integration of MCU, unicast and multicast:** Isabel platforms allow any combination of MCUs, IP unicast and IP multicast connections.
- **Networking technologies supported:** different types of LANs, ADSL, ATM, ISDN, Frame Relay, satellite, etc.
- **Support for various Collaboration Services:** Tele-meeting, Tele-Class, Tele-Conference. Other services can be designed according to customer requirements.
- **Dynamically configurable Collaboration Components:** audio (G.711, G.721, G722, G.728, GSM, eco cancelling, etc.), video (H.263, MJPEG, MPEG, etc.), Windows and Linux application sharing, remote presentation, pointers, remote camera control, electronic blackboard (iMIMIO), etc.
- **Networking architecture, protocols:** TCP-UDP over IPv4 or IPv6, RTP, RTCP.
- **Bandwidth needs:** between 128Kb/s and 10Mb/s.

**PC Requirements:** Pentium IV with 512MB of RAM, with network interface and multimedia hardware supported by SuSE 9.2. Isabel is distributed as an Autoinstallation CD which includes both SuSE 9.2, the needed software and Isabel.

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## 2. Documentation overview

This document is just an non-technical introduction to Isabel. The following documentation is available:

- **Introduction to Isabel:** this document.
- **Isabel quick guide:** instructions on how to make a quick videoconference using preinstalled Isabel terminals.
- **Isabel participant's guide:** guide for people who want to join an Isabel session organized by a third party. It provides information on how to install and test a local Isabel terminal, the network requirements and how to participate in the session. It also includes information for people who will operate an Isabel terminal in the say-by-day basis.
- **Isabel organizer's guide:** guide for people who want to organize their own Isabel sessions. It includes information about session management, Isabel session architecture, definition of sessions and advanced roles.
- **Isabel services handbook:** reference book about the Telemeeting, Teleclass and Teleconference Isabel services.
- **Isabel audiovisuals:** guide for the connection of audio and video equipment to Isabel terminal, from small personal terminals to very large auditoriums.
- **Isabel reference handbook:** reference book for the Isabel application.
- **AutoCD installation guide:** instructions for the installation of the Isabel Autoinstallation CD.



### 3. Annex A: Isabel product sheet

# Isabel



## Advanced Videoconference for PC

### Advantages over classic videoconference:

- More natural communication
- Integrated managing system
- Best quality ↔ bandwidth ratio
- Shared applications
- Lower cost

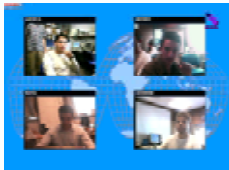
### Tailored services:

- Tele-meeting
- Tele-class
- Tele-conference
- Ad-hoc services (adapted to user's needs)

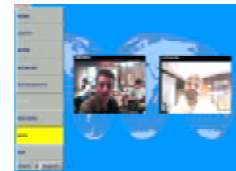
### Other components:

- Web antenna
- Recorder

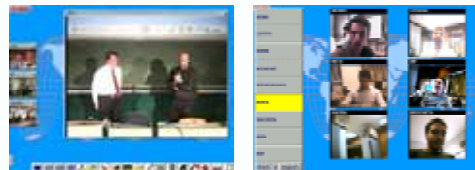
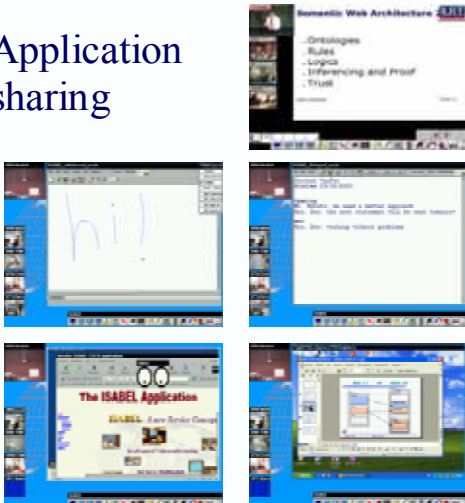
### Videoconference



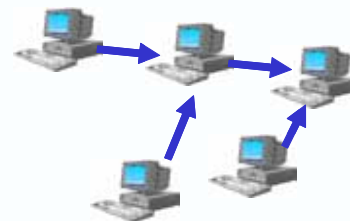
### Rich interaction modes set



### Application sharing



### Software MCU (efficient network usage)





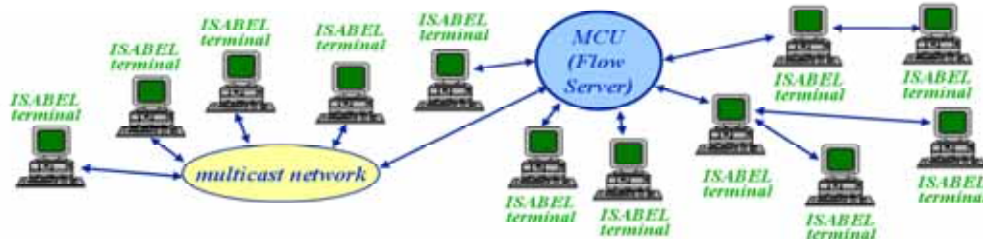
ISABEL CSCW is an advanced multipoint videoconference for PC based in two new concepts:

- **Service:** the application adapts its work and control to the needs of the concrete service: tele-meeting, tele-class, tele-conference, tailored services,...
- **Interaction mode:** each presentation on the screen emphasizes the most important items in each moment

ISABEL uses TCP/UDP over IP and IPv6 (either unicast or multicast), therefore it can be used over multiples access technologies: Ethernet, ATM, RDSI, ADSL, FR, satellite,... ¡Even all them combined!



Each ISABEL terminal is at the same time an MCU, eliminating the necessity of the expensive MCU hardware



ISABEL uses from 128Kbps up to 10Mbps (according to the necessary quality)

#### Offered components:

- Different modes of audio- and videoconference: Chat mode, One mode, Question modes,...
- Embedded applications sharing: presentations, whiteboard, editor,...
- Windows and Linux applications sharing
- Web antenna: broadcast of the Isabel session to the Web
- Recorder to .AVI files

Works on standard PC (P4 2GHz, 256MB, 2GB HD, multimedia equipment) with SuSE Linux operating system (included in the auto-installation CD)

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