HETMA Approved: Rally Bar + Tap IP

"It also allows for setting up rooms that are both stand-alone and BYOD, which introduces a great amount of flexibility."

- HETMA EVALUATOR

Overview

The Higher Education Technology Managers Alliance (HETMA) is a 501(C)3 advocacy organization focused on growing the influence and elevating the profile of the higher education audiovisual vertical. Their mission is to create community, professional development opportunities, and to amplify member voices. An integral part of that mission is to share best practices and find innovative solutions for college campuses and learning spaces. HETMA accomplishes this through its "HETMA Approved" Program.

Products awarded with HETMA's quality seal have been vetted by real-world technology managers and deemed to be a good fit for campus environments everywhere.

In Fall 2024, HETMA AV managers at **Northwestern University**, **Logan College**, **University of Pikeville**, **Aims Community College**, and **Illinois College** put Logitech's Rally Bar + Tap IP to the test on their campuses, evaluating for quality, performance, and meeting the needs of higher education institutions.

EVALUATION SITES
Northwestern University
John A. Logan College
University of Pikeville
Aims Community College
Illinois College

STUDENT ENROLLMENT
Small (<5,000 students): 2
Medium (5,000-10,000 students): 2
Large (>10,000 students): 1

SOLUTIONS
Rally Bar + Tap IP

Challenge

College campuses are a complex ecosystem of modern teaching, learning and working environments whose needs are constantly evolving. To stay ahead in this dynamic landscape, colleges require cutting-edge technology that can seamlessly integrate into their infrastructure and enhance (vs. disrupt) the learning experience. This is why HETMA is always on the lookout for best-in-class solutions that bring new levels of productivity, connection, and collaboration to their campuses.

To meet the challenges of today's higher education environments, it's critical that AV solutions offer:

- High-quality performance
- Simple setup and ease of use
- Compatibility with all leading collaboration and lecture capture platforms (Zoom, Google Meet, Microsoft Teams, and more)
- Simplified management for IT teams
- Cost-effectiveness for every budget

Solution

Rally Bar + Tap IP is an all-in-one video bar and touch controller with PoE connectivity. AV managers from five HETMA member institutions evaluated Rally Bar + Tap IP for 45 days in a variety of real-world campus spaces from offices to conference rooms.
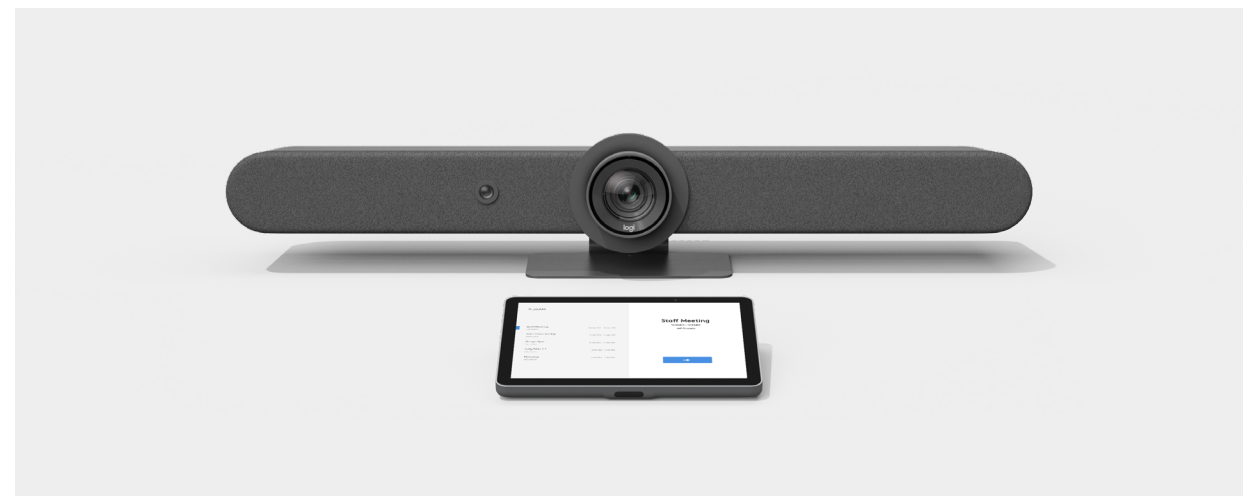
The all-in-one solution features:

Rally Bar

Designed for medium to large rooms, Rally Bar delivers a powerful video conferencing experience, featuring brilliant optics (up to 15X total zoom), automated PTZ, and high-performance audio. With AI video intelligence, advanced sound pickup and noise suppression, this all-in-one solution provides a natural meeting and learning experience.

Plus, it's simple to use, manage, and deploy at scale with fewer cables, no PC required and custom-designed mounts, mic pods and accessories for flexibility in any space.

Tap IP

Video meetings start with Tap IP, a network-connected touch controller that's easy to use and simple to set up with a single Power over Ethernet cable that can be routed through the back or below the device. Deliver one-touch join, easy content-sharing and a seamless meeting experience across all rooms. With clean cable management and a range of available mounts, Tap IP installs easily and stays up and running.

Tap IP and Rally Bar integrate with leading video conferencing platforms such as Microsoft Teams, Zoom and Google Meet, for a seamless meeting experience.

"The beamforming microphones provide a strong coverage area that allows for participants to not have to be on top of the bar in order to be heard. They also **allow for back and forth conversation** to be well heard on the far end."

- HETMA EVALUATOR

Results

Rally Bar + Tap IP proved to be a winning combination for higher education. **Both solutions exceeded HETMA evaluators' expectations** for quality and performance.

Quality That Matters

HETMA evaluators agreed that Rally Bar + Tap IP are well-constructed and easily configured. One evaluator commented: "The camera is high quality and exceeded my expectations. We made a few comparisons between other manufacturers' video bars, and Logitech had far superior quality in both microphone and speaker quality."

Another evaluator explained, "The microphones were where our meeting saw the biggest improvement, and what was noted a few times from the online members of the meeting was the clarity and definition of voices."

Built-in AI video intelligence capabilities ensure that all meeting participants are seen clearly, which enables a better meeting experience for remote participants.

> "Having used other cameras with AI detection in them, the Rally Bar definitely moves **smoother than I had expected.**"
>
> **- HETMA EVALUATOR**

Simple and Flexible

With flexible deployment, easy installation, integration with leading video conferencing platforms, and remote management, Rally Bar + Tap IP enables AV teams to provide seamless communication and collaboration for today's modern college campuses.

After installing Rally Bar and Tap IP, one HETMA evaluator shared, "Deploying and using this device is simplified. The Rally Bar is no larger than other sound bars that I have used in similar spaces, but includes the added benefit of having a camera built in. This eliminates the additional peripherals needed to set up a proper conferencing room."

A Good Fit (and Value) for Higher Ed

With today's budget considerations, Rally Bar + Tap IP's holistic solution to video conferencing makes it an ideal choice for higher education environments. As the cost per unit, when scaled across multiple rooms, can be an important factor in influencing purchasing decisions.

One HETMA evaluator said, "It is a well-priced product that provides for an almost all-in-one solution for small to medium conferencing spaces and is capable of natively supporting both Zoom and Microsoft Teams Rooms."

Whether on campus or remote, the ability for students, faculty, and staff to interact seamlessly through technology is essential for effective collaboration and connection. With Rally Bar + Tap IP, higher ed AV managers can deliver a simple and flexible solution that ensures everyone is seen and heard.

Remote Device Management

AV managers can also take advantage of Logitech Sync software, to easily monitor and manage Tap IP, Rally Bar and other Logitech meeting room devices, all from a single cloud-based platform. With Sync, IT teams can quickly configure features in meeting rooms to best suit their institution's needs while minimizing site visits and trouble tickets - which is critical when supporting large-scale deployments across a college campus.

> "For an All-in-One it is reasonably priced, it is **versatile and easy to install.** The average person can connect and use it with relative ease."
>
> **- HETMA EVALUATOR**