

Orange Business Services creates virtual fitting room service for Melon Fashion Group to improve global apparel manufacturing

- Virtual fitting room helps designers in Russia collaborate with manufacturers in China
- Cloud-based service requires little equipment and is easy to use

Melon Fashion Group has chosen Orange Business Services for a virtual fitting room solution using immersive video conferencing. Designers for its three brands, Zarina, Love Republic and befree, are now able to easily collaborate with manufacturing teams all along the design and production process of clothes.

Melon Fashion Group's design teams are based in its Saint Petersburg's head offices, while its manufacturing facilities are located in China. The company was losing several weeks from its production schedule, because it had to ship specimens from the factory back to the designers for each internal product quality evaluation. The Orange solution helps Melon Fashion Group recover this time and eliminate unnecessary transport costs. Now interim fabric and material changes can be made instantly, reducing the risk of poor-quality products – although the final decision will still be made on-site.

The Melon "virtual fitting room" is based on Open Video Presence from Orange, with video speeds up to 20Mbit/s. The videoconferencing service does not require any specific equipment, and users can connect to a conference from any device, including mobile, to view the fitting results. Design and manufacturing staff can even access the information after the online session has come to an end.

In order to let the designers fully appreciate the quality of the items tested, 500 Polycom RealPresence terminals have been installed in its offices. They feature high-resolution cameras, which support optical zooms of up to 25 times, making it easy to distinguish even the finest points of the products, such as the seam stitching or fabric detail. As a result, designers of all three brands are able to organize test fittings of products in China from Russia, using their tablets and smartphones.

"The virtual fitting room service based on Open Video Presence has enabled us to optimize our designers' work and speed up the preparation of new products for mass production. In addition, we have avoided the need to create a video server, replacing it with convenient cloud services. We plan to continue our move toward cloud services, which are helping us optimize operating processes and achieve cost savings," said Alexey Morozov, CIO, Melon Fashion Group.

"Our partnership with Melon Fashion Group demonstrates the effectiveness of modern cloud services and how videoconferencing technology can be a part of the production process. This innovative example shows how digital transformation can make a real difference to manufacturing companies by improving collaboration and responsiveness between teams located on different continents," said Richard Van Wageningen, Senior Vice President, Indirect, Middle East, Africa and Russia, Orange Business Services.

About Melon Fashion Group

Melon Fashion Group owns fashion brands befree, ZARINA and LOVE REPUBLIC. The company carries out a full cycle of fashion business activities, starting with modeling, production, purchasing and ending with the distribution, sales, promotion of women's and men's clothing and accessories. As of <u>January 1, 2017</u>, the company controls 558 stores in 6 countries. The head-office is located in St. Petersburg.

About Orange Business Services

Orange Business Services, the B2B branch of the Orange Group, and its 21,000 employees, is focused on supporting the digital transformation of multinational enterprises and French SMEs across five continents. Orange Business Services is not only an infrastructure operator, but also a technology integrator and a value-added service provider. It offers companies digital solutions that help foster collaboration within their teams (collaborative workspaces and mobile workspaces), better serve their customers (enriched customer relations and business innovation), and support their projects (enriched connectivity, flexible IT and cyberdefense). The integrated technologies that Orange Business Services offer range from Software Defined Networks (SDN/NFV), Big Data and IoT, to cloud computing, unified communications and collaboration, as well as cybersecurity. Orange Business Services customers include over 3,000 renowned multinational corporations at an international level and over two million professionals, companies and local communities in France.

Learn more at www.orange-business.com or follow us on LinkedIn, Twitter and our blogs.

Orange is one of the world's leading telecommunications operators with annual sales of 40.9 billion euros in 2016 and has 263 million customers in 29 countries at 31 December 2016. Orange is listed on Euronext Paris (symbol ORA) and on the New York Stock Exchange (symbol ORAN).

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