

CUSTOM DISPLAY SYSTEMS MEET THE HIGH-PERFORMANCE NEEDS OF BOTH NEW AND RETROFIT APPLICATIONS FOR AUTOMATIC TELLER MACHINES.

Would you guess that the number one complaint of bank customers is that they can't read the displays in outdoor automatic teller machines? This ATM manufacturer - the second largest worldwide - turned to Planar to solve the problem.

Typically, ATMs use standard CRT monitors, primarily because of their low cost. However, as the number and complexity of ATM transactions has increased, readability of the displays has become a much larger issue, especially in outdoor machines where sunlight can make text on a CRT screen virtually invisible. At the same time, the cost difference between flat panel displays and CRTs has narrowed dramatically, making new flat panel technologies much more attractive.

Planar is a long-term display partner for this ATM manufacturer, and has developed an in-depth knowledge base around ATM product and customer requirements. The manufacturer's input to Planar was to develop clear, sunlight-readable displays in two sizes: one to retrofit systems already in the field, and a larger display for new systems destined for outdoor installations. This led to one of the more difficult design challenges for this project, which was to ensure that the new displays were completely backwards compatible with systems built as far back as the 1970's.

An additional challenge was meeting the stringent power limitations for the displays while providing the high visual performance required for this application. Planar engineers developed custom displays with special reflective coatings designed to improve readability without requiring a stronger backlight, which would have increased the power demands on the system. The Planar design team also developed more efficient video boards to drive the system, which also saved power without impacting performance.

With four years of display design experience for this customer, Planar is working on the next generation: a line of universal displays that will meet the demanding visual performance requirements of outdoor installations and will be cost effective for every installation, indoors and out.