Hands-On Testing

The Rally Bar Remote

Rally Bar's Bluetooth LE remote control (see image at right) offers the following functions in both Appliance and USB mode:

- Camera pan / tilt
- Back (for menu navigation)
- Hook switch on / off
- Microphone mute

- Zoom + / -
- Volume up / down
- Preset (or Teams button)

We tested each of the remote functions, and each worked as expected.

Figure 9: Rally Bar Remote

Appliance Mode (Zoom Rooms)

Rally Bar is a Zoom-certified device, which means it has been vetted for use as a Zoom Rooms endpoint by Zoom.[4] To test appliance mode, we used the Logitech Rally Bar to conduct numerous Zoom video calls.

Detailed coverage of Zoom Rooms is beyond the scope of this study. However, participating in a Zoom meeting using Rally Bar in appliance mode is as easy as:

- Starting a new (ad-hoc) meeting by clicking the "Meet Now" button on Tap or the "Meet" button on a touch display

- Joining a scheduled meeting by clicking that meeting's "Join" button on Tap or a touch display

- Joining a scheduled or ad-hoc meeting by clicking the "Join" button and entering the meeting ID (and password if required)

- Inviting people or rooms to a video call directly as follows:

  o On Logitech Tap - accessing the "Meet Now" tab, selecting one or more people or rooms from the contact/rooms list, and clicking the "Meet Now" button

  o On a touch display – clicking the "Contacts" button, selecting one or more people or rooms from the contact/rooms list, and clicking "Start with video"

Throughout our testing, Rally Bar provided an exceptionally strong Zoom Rooms experience.

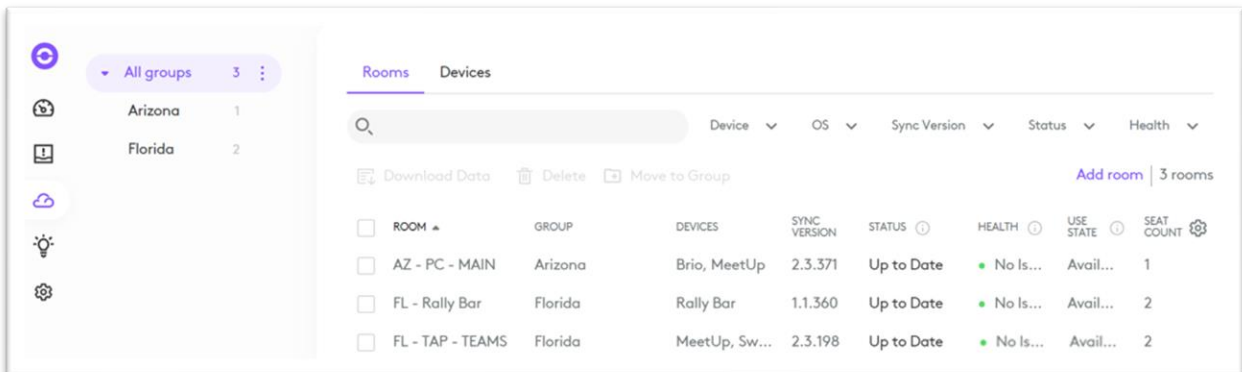Throughout our testing, Rally Bar provided an exceptionally strong Zoom Rooms experience.

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[4] Rally Bar is also certified for Microsoft Teams as a USB device. Also, we expect Logitech to add support for additional services providers to Rally Bar soon.

RECON RESEARCH

Device Management using Logitech Sync

Logitech Sync is a cloud-based platform that allows system administrators to remotely monitor and manage Logitech meeting room video conferencing devices and some third-party devices from vendors including Aver, Crestron, Huddly, Poly, and Yamaha.

As a part of the system installation (see above), we also registered our Rally Bar to our company's Logitech Sync portal account.

Monitoring – Sync provides a real-time inventory screen (see screenshot below at left) that includes room/device status, highlights devices with issues or problems, and provides diagnostic information to expedite troubleshooting efforts.

Figure 18: Logitech Sync Portal – Inventory / Device List

Management - Sync allows admins to deploy firmware updates in bulk to ensure that all devices are using the most current software version.

Insights / Analytics – Sync Insights (currently in beta) provides room utilization and average seat usage information (as a percent of the allowable capacity) within each space to help the organization's facilities, space planning, HR, and health & safety teams make informed strategic decisions.

The screenshot at right shows an organization with several hundred Logitech-powered meeting rooms, some under-utilized spaces, and a few rooms with excessive average seat usage (see red circles).
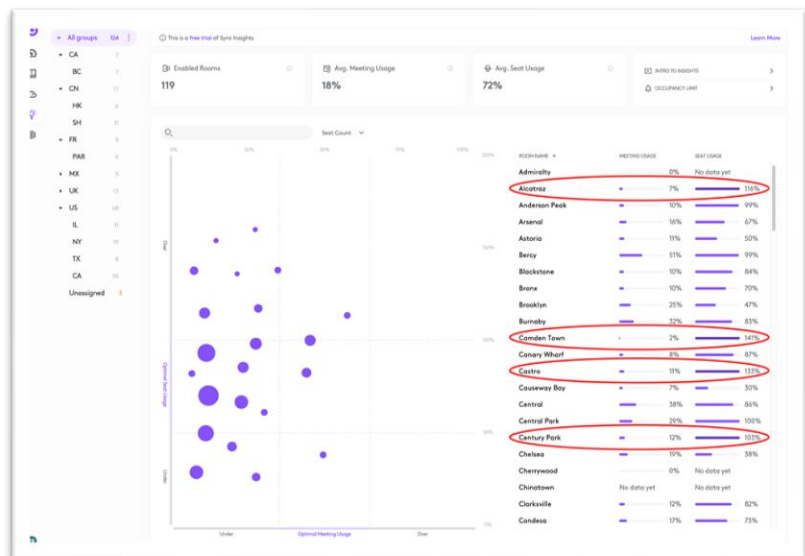

Figure 19: Logitech Sync Portal – Insights System