HAL College of Technology & Design

Introducing the Wacom Cintiq Pro 27 with a large screen and high resolution for developing young talents who can meet the needs of all industries.

HAL is a vocational school with campuses in Tokyo, Osaka, and Nagoya, specializing in training professionals who can immediately contribute in fields such as games, CG animation, graphic design, anime, illustration, music, car design, IT, web development, and AI, among other IT and digital content areas. With its unique educational program focusing on 'industry-academia collaboration,' a fully-equipped hands-on training environment, and unmatched support systems, HAL has achieved a 100% employment rate for those seeking employment after graduation. **www.hal.ac.jp**

Learn in the same environment as the pros and from the same perspective as the pros

HAL is a vocational school based on the philosophy of "from zero to professional". Through practical education that reflects the needs of each industry in the field of digital content in the curriculum, they have produced many outstanding talents over the years. The school has developed a unique educational programme that aims to nurture not only the acquisition of knowledge and skills, but also rich humanity such as creativity, application and in-dustry adaptability. In addition, they are working on practical industry-academia collaboration projects in which students work on everything from planning to actual production from the perspective of actual professionals in collaboration with companies and creators. Therefore, all the hardware and software for training are equipped with the same high-spec environment as professionals.

Live. Dare. Create.

The school, which has created the same environment as such professional workplaces, has been using Wacom pen tablet products for some time. Mr. Hironobu Yoshida, Deputy Director General of the Academic Affairs Depart-ment, explains the background as follows.

"We first introduced a board-shaped pen tablet for prac-tical training in the anime course of the four-year Depart-ment of CG, Design and Animation. It was around this time that we began to shift from analogue drawing to digital and after that, we began to introduce liquid crystal pen tablets in the animation course. Recently, we have introduced a board-type pen tablet as a set with a notebook PC as a teaching material for first-year students and we are using it for illustration and drawing classes."

Osaka Campus

Nagoya Campus

wacom.com

In the fall of 2023, Wacom Cintiq Pro 27 was introduced simultaneously at Tokyo, Nagoya and Osaka campuses in the Graphic Design and Illustration Course of the CG, Design and Animation Four-Year Course. Regarding the reason for choosing the 26.9-inch liquid crystal pen tablet, which is the largest screen size among Wacom Cintiq Pro, Satoshi Murakami, the chief of the Educational Affairs Depart-ment, says as follows. "We thought that by using the largest Wacom pen display, the larger, the better, students would be able to adapt to different environments in various industries in the future It's one."

The large screen of the Wacom Cintiq Pro 27 reduces drawing costs

Currently (March 2024), the Wacom Cintiq Pro 27 is installed in the classroom in the form of a trial operation and fur-ther additions are planned in the future. The appearance of large 4K (UHD) liquid crystal pen tablets lined up is truly a masterpiece.

"In addition to the size of the project, the high resolution of 4K has made it possible to see details that were previously invisible and I feel that the cost of drawing has dropped considerably. Even if the work of enlarging and checking each drawing is one second, it will take a lot of time if it is accumulated. Also, I don't feel any more stroke delay than before. I think it's really at the level of drawing with a pen on paper," says Murakami about the experience of using the Wacom Cintiq Pro 27.

Students who draw illustrations using Clip Studio Paint and other tools have also commented that the screen is clean and easy to see, that it is easy to draw even small details and that they want it at home.

"In the lower grades, students learn basic drawing skills, so they start by hand-drawing. As students progress to the upper grades, they will shift to digital, but the current digital native generation of students has been drawing digitally using smartphones and other devices since before we teach, so without denying that, I would like to let them touch digital

devices such as liquid crystal pen tablets as a tool suitable for the current era as soon as possible", Mr. Yoshida says.

Distinction between pen tablets and pen displays

In the lower grades, notebook PCs and pen tablets are used as teaching materials in class and students take them home and use them for self-study.
"I think it would be difficult to use a large pen display at home because it is not portable and it is rather expensive for students."

Mr. Murakami also talks about the use of different types as follows. "Of course, the good thing about the LCD pen display is that you can draw directly, but the part you are drawing with the hand holding the pen is inevitably hidden. In terms of educating human resources who can flexibly respond in any environment, I would like to actively teach students how to use both of these qualities."

For students who are aiming to become professionals in the future

The unstoppable evolution of digital technology is changing the professional field at a dizzying speed. At HAL, we are constantly working to improve our educational programmes and training facilities so that we can respond to the speed of such changes. Finally, Mr. Yoshida and Mr. Murakami had the following message for students who are aiming to become professionals.

"I think everyone has their own path to achieve, but I want you value your passion. And this school provides an environment where you can take on various challenges with your peers during your student life and turn 'what you like' into profession from that experience. Even if you can't find a clear path yet, let's learn together with the feeling of 'liking'."

"Of course, the Wacom Cintiq Pro 27 introduced this time is the most advanced in the industry in terms of technology, but it is fun to simply draw with this pen display. You can draw whatever you want very simply without having to learn difficult operations, so I want you to feel the fun of it to the fullest. Before you know it, it is turning into technology and we will continue to create such an environment in the future."

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