



case study

## Nepris Inspires Students Through Zoom

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Every child wants to be something when they grow up. Some want to be astronauts; others want to be doctors. None of them consider what they will actually have to learn in order to progress in these fields. When they are first introduced to algebra and chemistry, virtually every student eventually wonders, “When am I going to use this?”

This is a fundamental gap in the education system, and until now answers have been lacking. Currently, solutions involve inviting industry experts into the classroom to discuss their job functions and careers. As helpful as this may be to the few students they talk to, it isn’t necessarily relevant to what they are learning in the classroom and it isn’t scalable, since most experts don’t have insight into school curriculum and schools don’t have access to droves of nearby experts on demand.

This is where Nepris comes in. Nepris connects classrooms to industry experts via Zoom’s cloud-based video conferencing platform. This fully-integrated solution allows experts near and far to inspire students by talking about subjects in a way that engages them and makes them realize that the concepts they’re learning will lead to something in their futures.

“Experts may come in person, maybe once or twice during Career Day,” said Sabari Raja, Founder of Nepris, LLC. “With Nepris, our vision is to eliminate barriers to make industry engagement a part of everyday learning.”

Nepris’ integration with Zoom makes this possible by allowing experts to interact with students in a virtual environment. The experts are out there. They participate voluntarily through science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) programs in their companies. This is a mutually beneficial process because the teachers are able to connect their classroom to experts, and down the line, companies will have more



### Nepris

**Industry:** Education

- Nepris helps bring industry experts into classrooms
- Their platform relies on Zoom to connect teachers, students, and experts
- Recording, ease-of-use and HD video are valued Zoom features

qualified potential employees in former STEM students.

Added to the geographical barriers that Raja mentions, there's also the issue of time. Employees in major corporations simply do not have the time to visit many different classrooms. To further add to the burden of "STEMming" a school, experts can't be aware of each class curriculum before meeting with students.

Nepris brings industry experts and classrooms together in a brand new way, lightening the teachers' load and broadening student horizons. The platform is simple and elegant. A teacher who wishes to bring an expert into the classroom goes to Nepris and creates a request aligned to a specific topic in the curriculum as well as the industry and occupation the expert must be in. Nepris then matches the class to an expert, enables collaboration and communication between the teacher and industry professionals, and sets up a video meeting between the parties for an interactive virtual discussion, which is also recorded and can be shared with other classrooms. This video meeting takes place through Zoom.

One must ask, "Why Zoom?" "We evaluated a number of different video conferencing platforms," said Raja. "For us, Zoom was an easy choice because we wanted a cloud-based platform that was easy for customers to install and start. We wanted a seamless process, since teachers in the classroom don't have time to handle excessive technology. Its ability to work on most any device, whether it be a tablet, smartphone, or desktop computer was also a deciding factor. And ultimately, ease of use was the primary consideration for our choice."

Since Nepris relies on Zoom's software for its virtual interactions, there are moments when the two companies interact. "We were very pleased with Zoom's responsiveness to our feedback," Raja added. "In essence, Zoom is a highly approachable company."

The Nepris platform has been received with enthusiasm

in the schools where it has debuted. "The schools have provided feedback, and most of it has to do with how easy the system is to use," said Raja. "Before using the platform, customers often ask whether they have to install something on their systems or go through any complex setups. They were pleased when they heard that the platform is seamless and requires a minimal amount of work to get it up and running."

"Our experts also benefit from the platform by being able to share what's on their screens, either to present something they've put together or demonstrate processes that are better seen on their computers," she adds. "In one instance, an expert was successfully able to make a presentation involving fiber optics and show a single strand from a cable. This is one example in which Zoom's high-definition video comes in handy."

But even with the advent of virtual meeting technology, it is still difficult to connect experts, teachers and students in a way that compensates for busy schedules. A school day lasts around six hours. It would be quite an accomplishment to find an expert that's able to stay on the line for that long. For this reason, Zoom allows up to 25 video streams to join a meeting, allowing multiple classrooms to interact with the industry expert at the same time. Nepris also makes use of Zoom's handy recording feature. By recording a meeting, Nepris lets students in other class sessions view the recorded video feed from previous sessions. These features eliminate the need for an expert to stay all day or travel around to different schools repeating the same thing to different groups of students.

Of course, there's also the issue of bandwidth. Due to insufficient telecommunications infrastructure, public schools don't always have the luxury of a fully-fledged 100 Mbit up/ downstream connection. To get a clear, crisp video signal, one would expect that a strong downstream connection is required.



“Bandwidth is still a big issue in some schools,” said Raja. “They may have considerable limitations which can be unwelcoming to most video conferencing platforms. However, even under these circumstances, Zoom has performed quite well. The software automatically scales down the video resolution to compensate for any inconsistencies in bandwidth.”

Ultimately, Nepris gets these benefits from leveraging Zoom’s platform:

- A cloud-based video meeting solution
- High-quality video streaming, which gives experts more flexibility in their presentations
- Integration through an API that allows Nepris to present its platform as one product
- 25 video streams and recording to share one expert with multiple classrooms
- Smooth meetings, despite bandwidth inconsistencies
- A responsive support system

A platform that is easy for teachers and experts to use. Nothing in this world inspires a student more than a role model. This is where they draw their motivation; and if it must come from a screen rather than a live person, so be it. The technology now exists to show students that what they’re doing right now is relevant, and if they patiently follow through with their schoolwork, they are setting themselves up for a brighter future.



Zoom helps businesses and organizations bring their teams together in a frictionless cloud environment to get more done. Our easy, reliable, video- first unified communications platform for video, voice, content sharing, and chat runs across mobile devices, desktops, telephones, and room systems. Founded in 2011, Zoom is a publicly traded company on Nasdaq (ticker: ZM) and headquartered in San Jose, California. Visit [zoom.com](https://zoom.com) and follow [@zoom\\_us](https://twitter.com/zoom_us).

