A CASE STUDY OF

Network Integration for Post-Production Editors

THE ISSUE

In 2006, VCC GmbH Agency for Postproduction reviewed several optical network vendors to determine the best technology to make the company more flexible and competitive. As a post-production specialist, VCC needed to ensure 100 percent QoS on all of its video delivery in order to meet the needs of its customers.

In addition to conventional areas of expertise, such as high-end image processing and 3D computer animation for TV posts, commercials, cinema and other video material, VCC develops a number of specialties, including electronic games for PC, Playstation and Dreamcast as well as 3D children's TV.

With both the television and film industries beginning to implement higher quality video for movies, television shows and commercials, VCC required additional bandwidth to accommodate the larger video files (2k & HDTV). Plus, VCC needed IP functionality with extremely low delay in its network to accommodate both compressed and uncompressed SD and HD video files, as well as transport HD video from point-to-point using a ring fiber structure.

THE SOLUTION

Based on VCC's unique needs to transport uncompressed HD in real-time over a ring structured network, Net Insight's Nimbra platform was the only optical transport switch on the market that could meet this demand.

The Nimbra platform, including a mix of STM-16 Trunk Modules, HD-SDI, SD-SDI Video Access Modules as well as Gigabit Ethernet Access interfaces were implemented into VCC's network. It is with this module that VCC can interconnect all of its studios throughout Germany.

The STM-16 Trunk Module is a 4-port add-drop multiplexer that can be used in all topologies – such as star, ring, point-to-point, bus and mesh – and enables scaling to larger multiservice networks. The scalability supported by the on-board switch matrix, increases the overall switch capacity. Bandwidth can be allocated in any proportions and switched at a granularity of 0.5 Mbps, making it possible to run a mix of SDI and ASI video together with LAN-LAN traffic and E1/T1 voice interconnect over a single OC-48/STM-16 interface or higher.

THE COMPANY

VCC AGENCY FOR POSTPRODUCTION

VCC GmbH AGENCY FOR POSTPRODUCTION, one of Europe's largest post-production companies, is headquartered in Hamburg, Germany and has additional offices in Babelsberg, Berlin, Düsseldorf, Frankfurt and Halle. In the US, VCC customers include national and international production companies, advertising agencies, television channels and industry customers.

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THE RESULTS

VCC GmbH Agency for Postproduction installed Net Insight's Nimbra platform in 2006 to reduce both time and travel costs when producing TV spots, commercials and other video material for its customers.

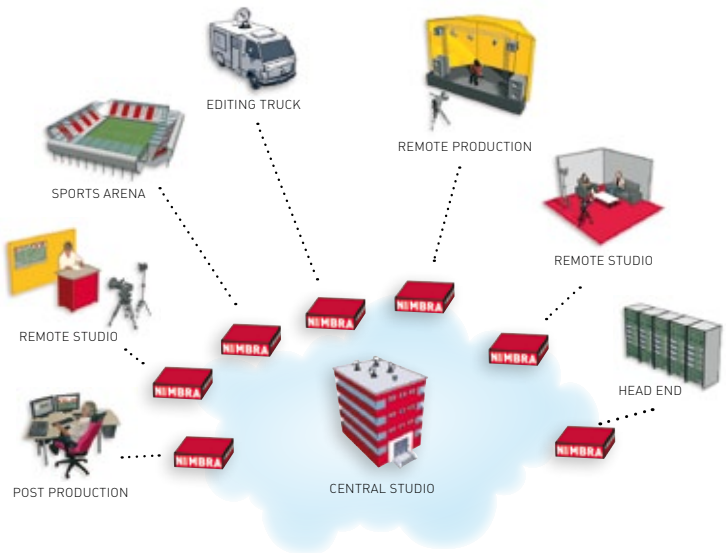
As the first post-production company in Europe to use this new technique, the 2.5 GBPS ring solution allows VCC to send uncompressed material from Hamburg to its subsidiaries in Babelsberg, Berlin, Düsseldorf, Frankfurt and Leipzig.

By enabling a fast, cost-efficient transport solution for professional video over HD-SDI, SD-SDI and Ethernet, this network allows key executives to watch, discuss and edit the same material – all in real-time – working in different locations. Previously, the VCC team and its customers would have to travel to the production offices in Hamburg to review and make appropriate edits to the post-production video.

Another benefit that VCC has realized from installing the Nimbra Platform is that they do not need a full Baselight system in each of their facilities for color correction. In addition, VCC created its own touch screen application to make post-production studio optimizing easier.

THE NIMBRA PLATFORM FEATURES MULTISERVICE NODES THAT COMBINE THE HD-SDI AND GIGABIT ETHERNET PORTS WITH:

- SDSDI
- DVB-ASI
- AES/EBU
- GbE/Fast Ethernet
- E1/T1
- Sonet/SDH interfaces on the same platform



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