EV$ INGEST WITH CENTRALPARQ
OVERVIEW ......................................................................................................................... 4
THE IMPORTANCE OF METADATA ...................................................................................... 4
THE CENTRALPARQ EVS WORKFLOW .............................................................................. 5
THE PRODUCTION IS DEFINED ......................................................................................... 5
THE SHOOT COMMENCES ................................................................................................. 5
INGEST ............................................................................................................................... 6
CONCLUSION .................................................................................................................... 6
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TECHNICAL SUPPORT

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LAST UPDATED

16 August 2013
OVERVIEW

News is the most demanding production environment in television. The challenges extend still further with 24-hour
news channels and online services continually demanding content. As material is shot by news crews, it needs to be
ingested as quickly as possible and made available to multiple editors and journalists, helping them get the news on
air as quickly as possible.

Many news organisations have recognised the power of EVS production solutions for news, where the speed and
reliability of its server architectures are ideally suited to this highly pressured environment. EVS supports news
broadcasters, helping them create, manage and distribute enriched content to their audiences, maximising the value
of that content.

Centralparq is a private cloud platform transforming video production. Its software makes digital video production
faster, easier and more secure at every stage of the process from media ingest to final distribution.

EVS and Centralparq have joined together to create a streamlined platform for the automated ingest of raw content
from ENG crews into an IPDirector nearline workflow - getting media and the relevant metadata into the production
pipeline much faster than ever before.

THE IMPORTANCE OF METADATA

A critical element in news workflows is that the content must be accurately described. With so much material coming
in continuously, journalists and editors simply do not have time to search for their content: it must be automatically
associated with a particular story and delivered to the relevant desktops and edit suites.

Good metadata is vital. Even more importantly, it must be linked to the content as soon as it arrives, to drive it around
the IPDirector workflows. The Centralparq technology ensures that metadata can be captured at the time of the shoot
and linked through the cloud to the EVS IPDirector installation at the news base.

Each story has a unique identity in the newsroom system. This unique identity is used by Centralparq to create QR
code labels to stick on the media carrier to be used by the crew. The use of QR codes means that even small
memory cards can be labelled.

On location a tablet or smartphone app scans the QR code, and then is used to log the metadata. This is sent in real
time to the Centralparq cloud over normal cellular data links. The log is associated with timecode or time of day, so is
synchronised to the content.

Back at base the Centralparq MediaDoQ scans the QR code on the media carrier and automatically ingests the
content, delivering media and metadata as a single package into the EVS IPDirector workflow for immediate viewing
and editing.

Key benefits
- Speeds news production through faster ingest and access
- Eliminates errors through mistyping and wrong metadata
- Actively encourages good logging on site
- Automates workflows from story creation to delivery for operational efficiency
- Uses seamless cloud data exchange
THE CENTRALPARQ EVS WORKFLOW

THE PRODUCTION IS DEFINED

As part of the definition of the story or shoot, the user logs onto the Centralparq cloud through IPDirector. This links the story information and any internal workflow structures to the production identity in Centralparq. In particular, if there is a specific subset of keywords which will be associated with the story, this is also linked.

With the story created and the bin and metadata structure established, QR code labels are printed and attached to the media to be used. A wide range of professional media carriers is supported, such as XDCAM, P2, SxS and CF.

THE SHOOT COMMENCES

On the shoot, as the media carrier is loaded into the camera its QR code is scanned by the tablet or smartphone. This ensures that the log is permanently associated with the content to which it refers.

Through the Centralparq cloud the tablet is then pre-loaded with the keyword grid and other information created in IPDirector and defined at the time the story was set up. This simplifies the logging to a largely touch operation, minimising the amount of typing and thus significantly reducing errors such as misspellings.

During the shoot the log is compiled. As well as keywords the user is free to add star ratings and comments. If a Bluetooth link to the camera is available the log is locked to actual timecode, otherwise it is linked to time of day.

As the log sheet is compiled it is created and updated in the Centralparq cloud, and from there to the EVS IPDirector database.
INGEST

When the content is ingested through the MediaDoQ hardware the QR code is automatically scanned, recalling all the metadata from the cloud and linking it with the essence on the Centralparq gateway server.

The EVS Xsquare API then takes over. It transcodes the content if required, and if multiple clips have continuous timecode it stitches them together. The content, technical metadata and links to the log sheet are then passed to IPDirector where it will be delivered to the appropriate people, with the correct story name and logging in place, ready for editing. When required, Centralparq can even direct ingested content, straight to an XT series server for playout.

CONCLUSION

The combination of Centralparq’s seamless connectivity in its secure private cloud and EVS’s powerful workflows in the newsroom deliver real synergy for the broadcaster. By pre-loading the logging device, errors in metadata are eliminated. Content is automatically and accurately linked with the right story in the newsroom system.

The result is faster, more accurate, more collaborative production which delivers where it really matters – getting the stories to air.

This development is a collaborative project between EVS and Centralparq. The roadmap for implementation and future functionality will be determined by user response, ensuring that the joint system delivers real operational benefits using the capabilities of cloud storage and delivery to the maximum, and simplifying and streamlining workflows for news broadcasters seeking a commercial and creative edge.
CUSTOMER SUPPORT & TRAINING

Our clients range from TV stations to video equipment rental companies and production houses worldwide. EVS’ key priority is to make sure that its clients keep performing at the highest possible level. We listen to our customers, identify operating workflows, anticipate needs, and suggest effective and reliable solutions, so that they in turn can offer top-quality productions to millions of TV viewers across the globe.

CUSTOMER SUPPORT

EVS is dedicated to making sure its products are functioning in a way that meets your needs and expectations. We offer technical support 24/7 from each of our regional offices, so you can rest assured that someone will always be available to answer any question that may arise.

All members of EVS’ technical support team are qualified technicians with a solid background in broadcasting. They understand your requirements and can provide you with the best solution available.

TRAINING

Do you want to learn how to operate EVS systems and applications or enhance your skills in using our tools?

EVS Training offers a series of courses on how to operate its products, taught in-house by industry professionals. Some of the training sessions are conducted by the EVS team via a Web interface, so that you get hands-on instruction even at a distance. EVS User Guides and technical documents are available free-of-charge on our Website.

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