IPDIRECTOR – CASCADING LOGGING
INTRODUCTION

Multi-camera shoots of live events – such as reality television or sports matches – generate a huge amount of content. Editors need help managing the content if they are to create highlights packages and tell stories, so they rely on metadata to filter the material.

Tagging – adding metadata on the fly, linked to timecodes – is now widely used. Developers such as EVS have created applications to allow operators to watch the action and add tags in real time.

To meet the demand for ever richer metadata and to help loggers provide full and accurate information, EVS has added cascading logging. This essentially provides layered grids of keywords, with each layer context sensitive. The cascading, “intelligent” capability speeds the logging process by proposing the correct keyword, saving the operator the time-consuming grid keyword search process. It also makes for a more precise system with more descriptive keywords and better quality logging.

SOFTWARE

This new functionality is enabled in release 6.55 of IPDirector software.

It allows users, at the planning stage of an event, to define a first level of keywords. Each keyword opens up a second-level grid of keywords that is logically derived from the top.

From level two, each keyword has a third-level grid attached, and so on. The software allows up to 5 levels to be defined.
OPERATION

Loggers are now presented with a simplified grid of keywords. Once they click on a level one keyword they will be offered a second level of keywords, which are linked to the first, and so on.

So in a tennis match, for example, the first level keyword could be Sharapova. That will call up a second level, which could include a list of possible shots: service, forehand, backhand, volley, lob, and so on.

The level below the shot could be the result. So selecting the service keyword, for example, could link to words including fault, let, ace, forehand return, backhand return, and so on. Another level might expand on fault, for long, wide, centre line, foot fault and more.

Another major application is in reality television. Take Big Brother, where the first-level menu could be the housemate; level two the room; level three the activity; level four who else is present, and so forth.

At first, many of these grids will be common: all housemates will have access to all rooms, for instance. But as the series develops, the menus can be adjusted to reflect the trends of the series and the habits of the individuals. If a character has developed a catchphrase, for example, then it could be given its own button, on a grid that only applies to that character.

BENEFITS

The key aim of the software is to give the logger greater support through a cascading approach to keywords: putting the most likely choices first in each set of circumstances. By presenting the keywords in a more flexible and understandable manner, loggers will be able to record richer, more informative metadata.

The layered grid approach allows screens to be designed so that the logger is always in the appropriate context. Everyone is familiar with the cascading suggestion of words, through smartphone typing and spellchecking. In this application the same principle results in faster logging, as well as better information for editors.
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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