

TV TECHNOLOGY

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USER REPORT

KTUL Manages Assets With Video Technics

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TULSA, OKLA.

KTUL is owned by Allbritton Communications and is the ABC affiliate in Tulsa. We produce more than four hours of live news programming daily. Last year, we upgraded from our existing tape-based system to a tapeless ingest, edit and play-to-air system for both news and master control.

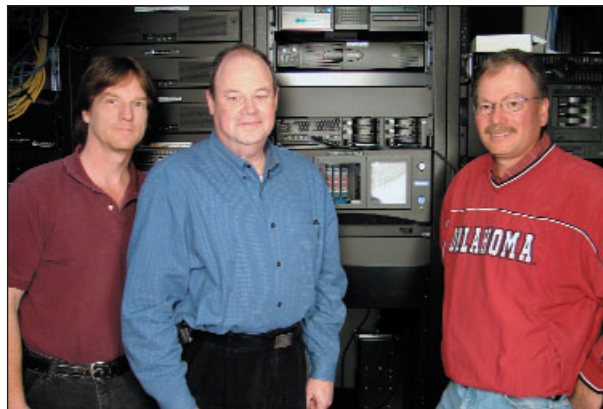
Instrumental to that change was Video Technics' NewsFlow system. This fit our budget and provided a number of features that we would not have been able to implement otherwise, including a centralized storage system with asset management for both news and master control. This allows access to media from both sides of the house and saves both time and money.

Once the content has entered our feed room via baseband, satellite or file-based Pathfire ingest, our journalists access it for cuts-only editing and for building rundowns with the VT Proxy Editor embedded in AP ENPS. Our editors create news packages with the VT News Edit plug-in for Adobe Premiere Pro, as it allows them to browse the database, preview proxies and drag and drop content into their timelines. Once packages are completed, editors use the "Export to Apella" function to move them to centralized storage for airing.

Our promo department is able to browse the database for news clips, and uses VT Proxy Browser on the Mac to drag and drop them into Final Cut Pro. Then, finished

promo packages are sent to centralized storage for access by master control.

We use Sundance automation for master control ingest and play-out on two VT Apella



(L-R) Ken Lewellen, KTUL engineering supervisor; Roger Herring, KTUL director of operations; and David Shaffer, station chief engineer

LCS servers, and our news shows are produced by two additional three-channel Apella LCS servers in sync with ENPS.

ARCHIVING OPERATION

Once our news is aired, we archive the associated clips—about 100 GB of news content per week. Our previous archive system—constructed in-house—was both inadequate and costly. We needed an archive system that would interface well with our existing NewsFlow solution. This was realized just last month, when we installed Video Technics' Media Archive Library. This combines their built-in asset management software with a dual-head Qualstar robotic tape library. The system

designed for us holds more than 15 TB of archived media, which can be searched and restored from any desktop via VT's Proxy Editor before we have to move any 800 GB LTO4 cartridges to the shelf. (This represents about three years of news clips.) We are already impressed with its positive impact on our archive and retrieval workflows.

As more HD content is becoming available, we are looking to add an Apella HDS play-out server. Since it already runs on the same software and configuration as our existing systems, installation will be plug-and-play.

The support from Video Technics has consistently been high quality, and their end-to-end solution has proved over time to be robust and cost-effective. We have found that continuing to scale our operations with Video Technics during the past two years has minimized operator learning curve and technical integration issues.

Roger Herring has been the director of operations for Allbritton Communications' KTUL in Tulsa, Okla., for more than 16 years, and has nearly 30 years experience in television broadcasting. He may be contacted at rherring@ktul.com.

For additional information, contact Video Technics at 404-327-8300 or visit www.videotechnics.com.