

DAVID
WRIGHT

CANIS MEDIA



TRAMS EQUIPS CANIS TELEVISION & MEDIA WITH CINEGY AIR PLAYOUT

Cinegy

Software License Key

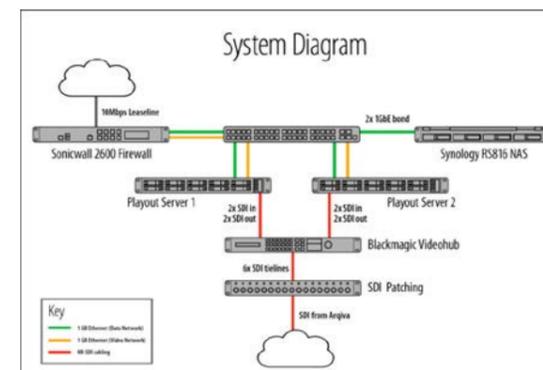
Canis Television & Media is a UK-based specialist broadcast services company, providing its clients as a one-stop shop for everything from production facilities to asset valuations to traffic control. In response to growing demand from its clients, Canis identified a need for channel playout facilities.

The company reviewed the market, looking at both traditional playout infrastructures and software-defined, IP-connected systems. Given that the facility would be built as part of its tenancy of the Arqiva control centre in Chalfont St Peter, west of London, a compact solution would have distinct advantages.

Having reviewed the available options, Canis selected a proposal from UK Systems integrator Trams Ltd, which utilised Cinegy Technology. "We required a bespoke, cost-effective playout solution which would be designed and installed, then supported on a continuing basis," said David Wright, managing director of Canis Television & Media.

"Trams took the time to understand our needs and the goals we wanted to achieve," he continued. "Their time and expertise meant they were able to deliver the ideal set-up, which they installed, trained our staff on, and will support into the future."

The requirement was to enable Canis to deliver four channels (SD or HD), with inputs and outputs over IP and SDI. To provide continuity, the playout servers needed to be duplicated for redundancy. Trams configured the installation with two Cinegy Air PRO playout servers. Under normal circumstances, each server handles two channels, but should there be a hardware failure, one Cinegy device can take over all four channels.



The Cinegy software provides full playout functionality and is hosted on a pair of HPE DL360 1U servers. The commodity HPE hardware is augmented with NVIDIA Quadro M2000 graphics and Deltacast SDI interfaces. The NVIDIA Quadro cards allow GPU-accelerated encoding for the H.264 outputs, another important boost to efficiency and cost control.

The installation also includes switching for SDI (Blackmagic Design) and ethernet (HP). Shared content storage is on a Synology RS816 NAS, providing capacity for 12TB. The rack also includes a firewall

from Sonicwall to protect the installation from online threats, and a long-term compliance recorder to meet the legal requirement to review the past six months of broadcasting on each channel.

Along with power management, the whole installation fits in 21U of rack space inside the existing machine room at Arqiva. It is designed to be scalable with growth in the playout business at Canis. It is also designed to be compatible with future demands, such as 4k Ultra HD transmission.

The result is a powerful and resilient playout infrastructure that meets the expectations of Canis's clients and has been achieved in a compact and cost-effective form. It can accept content and deliver channels online, with strong firewall protection, and it retains SDI capabilities to allow local ingest and connectivity to existing multiplexing.

"The Canis Project was an exciting solution for us to work on and we're pleased with the result," commented Warren Peel, MD Trams. "Our company motto is 'the customer comes first' so we make sure to listen and understand their needs... and then deliver exactly what they want."

Canis's Wright concluded, "Trams expertise and knowledge were very obvious during the specification, build, and installation. They knew what to do - and how - and delivered exactly what they promised. Trams, and Cinegy technology, certainly eased the process of us introducing a new service delivery capability, and we look forward to working with them in the future."

ABOUT THE COMPANIES

Canis

Canis Television & Media are dedicated to exceptional operational and broadcast support services. We aim to take technical responsibility from broadcasters and content owners through a portfolio of services from playout automation and presentation scheduling through to full channel management, and even production services. We have wide relationships with major broadcast platforms where we can turn your broadcast ambitions into reality.

Trams

Trams Ltd is an award-winning independent IT solutions provider, servicing large international companies and household brands, to SME's and schools. With an in-depth knowledge of industry technology, strong vendor relationships and decades of experience, Trams can deliver tailor-made solutions for your workplace. Find out more at www.trams.co.uk.

Cinegy

Cinegy develops software solutions for collaborative workflow encompassing IP, capture, editing, and playout services tools, integrated into an active archive for full digital asset management. Either SaaS, virtualizable stacks, cloud or on-premises, Cinegy is COTS using standard IT hardware, and non-proprietary storage technology. Cinegy products are reliable, affordable, scalable, easily deployable and intuitive. Cinegy is truly Software Defined Television. ■