European Communication Services

Playout service and Uplink by ECS

A Comprehensive Broadcast solution for your new TV channel

ECS provide state-of-the-Art facilities in a one stop shop solution for TV broadcast according to your TV channel requirements. Uplink station will be designed for your specific channel bandwidth location and Downlink Teleport. Same goes for the Playout, which is an automated, high capacity service. You can choose between Remote or Fully Managed playout services in accordance to your needs and we will design the optimal solution for transmitting content to the required broadcast network. Our experienced staff of engineers, technicians and QC specialists is capable of quick solving challenges to meet the demands of a changing digital environment and with plenty of space and equipment, our solutions expand alongside your growing business.

ECS Uplink Service:
Regardless of your location, ECS will also design your uplink station over the desired satellite, provide the equipment, install and commence the backhaul link up to the distributing teleport location.

ECS' teleport services combine the highest quality and advanced digital technologies from our UK-based centre. Connecting to major satellites and with connectivity to important fibre networks, we serve our broadcast clients with high quality to ensure you receive the coverage you require. We handle C-Band, Ku-Band and Ka-Band transmissions over SCPC and MCPC Platforms and global MPLS network service over fibre.

ECS Playout server
Our playout server is a “station-in-a-box” solution that is designed for TV stations of all sizes; It combines playout, graphics and professional automation and flawlessly integrates into any workflow. With its intuitive, user friendly GUI and features you cannot find with similar products, it makes a perfect choice for all environments.

The ECS playout server includes:

- Dual port HD video playout in a 3RU case
- Single channel automation
- Playlist scheduling
- Off-line computer graphics editor

On-Air Automation

- Single channel software, controls of up to 64 devices
- Controls multiple video servers on a single playlist, even if these servers are from different manufacturers
- Delivered with EditMaster, a separate application for scheduling and manual ingest
- Multiple redundancy options: 1+1 (mirror), N+1, device only
- Web monitoring interface – monitor what’s on air using an Internet browser (IE, Firefox…)
- Drag and drop playlist editing, separate editing list also available
- Various sound alerts
- Multiple timers, real time clock and a stopwatch
- Manual control and status information feedback for all devices at all times
- Drag and drop cue, dragging and dropping an ID from database will cue a device

- Timer for each device that will put them into play, allowing semi-automatic control of devices
- Countdown timer for each device (showing remaining time of the clip)
- Easy to make user definable folders and subfolders will organize database as needed
- Database search by various parameters (ID, Description...), supports * wildcard, sorts results

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ClipMaker

- Automated Ingest
- Automatic ingest from VTR or DVD to video server, follows user created lists
- Seven day timed record lists, 25 events per day
- Saves metadata for VTR, DVD and server clips (in and out points, description, notes…)
- Drag and drop record list editing
- New clips will be stored to database automatically, for easy recall/ingest
- Database search by different parameters
- A real time clock and event countdown timer
- Works with other automation companies

OnScreen

Simple Character Generator

- Keys images, still text, clocks and crawls
- Includes eight presets
- User can use com ports for GPI
- Requires a BlackMagic card. Supports both SD and HD
- Includes a remote control application

OnLineMCR

Control and Monitoring Through a Web Browser

- Provides access to automation applications through a web browser. Requires just an internet connection. Users can control and monitor on-air automation, ingest channels, timed scheduled ingest lists, transmission equipment, temperatures, relays, tower lights etc.
- A user is not limited to a single computer and is free to use any available regardless of its operating system- Windows, MacOS, Linux.
- Service can be used through a smart phone
- When using a smart phone, user is not limited to available wireless networks, but can access the internet through cell phone service

QBox

Shotbox & Playlist

- 200 event shot box
- Includes router control
- Buttons are programmed simply by dragging a clip from clip list onto a button
- Buttons can be highlighted with different colors
- Buttons are organized in 10 tabs with user definable names
- Drag and drop playlist editing
- Playlist can automatically be started by timer
- Starting the playlist could automatically route video server to on-air

ExCom

SMS and Email Messenger

- Sends SMS or Email alarms and warnings provided by AirMaster
- Each alarm and warning can be individually selected for three different users

BasicPlay

Video Server and VTR controller

- VTR and video server control panel
- Handy for controlling a device from different locations

RemoteView

Remote Monitoring and Control

- Control and editing of up to 20 AirMaster playlists simaltaneously over the Internet
- Control and editing of up to 60 ClipMaker timed record lists
- Low bandwidth requirements
- Audio alarm in case of playlist problem
- Chat messages can be exchanged with any AirMaster
- Database search of remote AirMasters

FlexiRoute

Routing Switcher Panel Replacement

- Upgradeable to virtually unlimited number of sources and destinations
- Users can define their favorite buttons
- Break away function, user friendly macros
- Timer function - make your router switch automatically
- A picture can be assigned to any source or destination button
- Buttons can be locked or highlighted
- Cost effective – cheaper than hardware panels

Operation

The entire system is built on a computer network, using regular networking equipment.

All applications control devices either through com ports, or through TCP/IP to com port converters.
There are no device management computers, device cards or any other proprietary hardware.
To control a device, all you need is to connect a control cable from device to a communication port and then set up the controlling application in its user friendly setup window. By using TCP/IP converters, if necessary, you will be able to control all of your devices even through a single wireless connection or the Internet.

For on-air playout, there are two applications delivered as a package: AirMaster, the on-air application and EditMaster, application for playlist scheduling, database maintenance and manual ingest to video server. They supports up to four different server storages, so you'll be able to use video servers of different manufacturers.
For example you can have two video servers, each with two inputs and two outputs, connected to storage number one. Then you have another video server with four outputs from a different manufacturer connected to storage number two. Both applications are capable of controlling each input or output of any server on the system.

Besides controlling video servers, they will control other devices like VTRs, DVD players, switchers and character generators.

If you wish to expand your system, for example to add another playout channel, all you will need to do is to install a PC, connect it to network, install the automation software and set it up by defining your devices and paths to database files. In other words, as far as automation software is concerned, you can go from being a one channel TV station to a two channel TV station in less than 15 minutes.

ClipMaker can be added with the same simplicity. It is designed for automated ingest from tape or DVD to video server and also includes timed recording lists for live satellite recordings. One operator can easily control multiple ClipMakers, meaning multiple record channels, significantly increasing TV station's efficiency.

Since the main function of ClipMaker is to create clips on video server, it will not only work as a part of our automation system, but can also work as a stand-alone application or as a part of other automation systems.

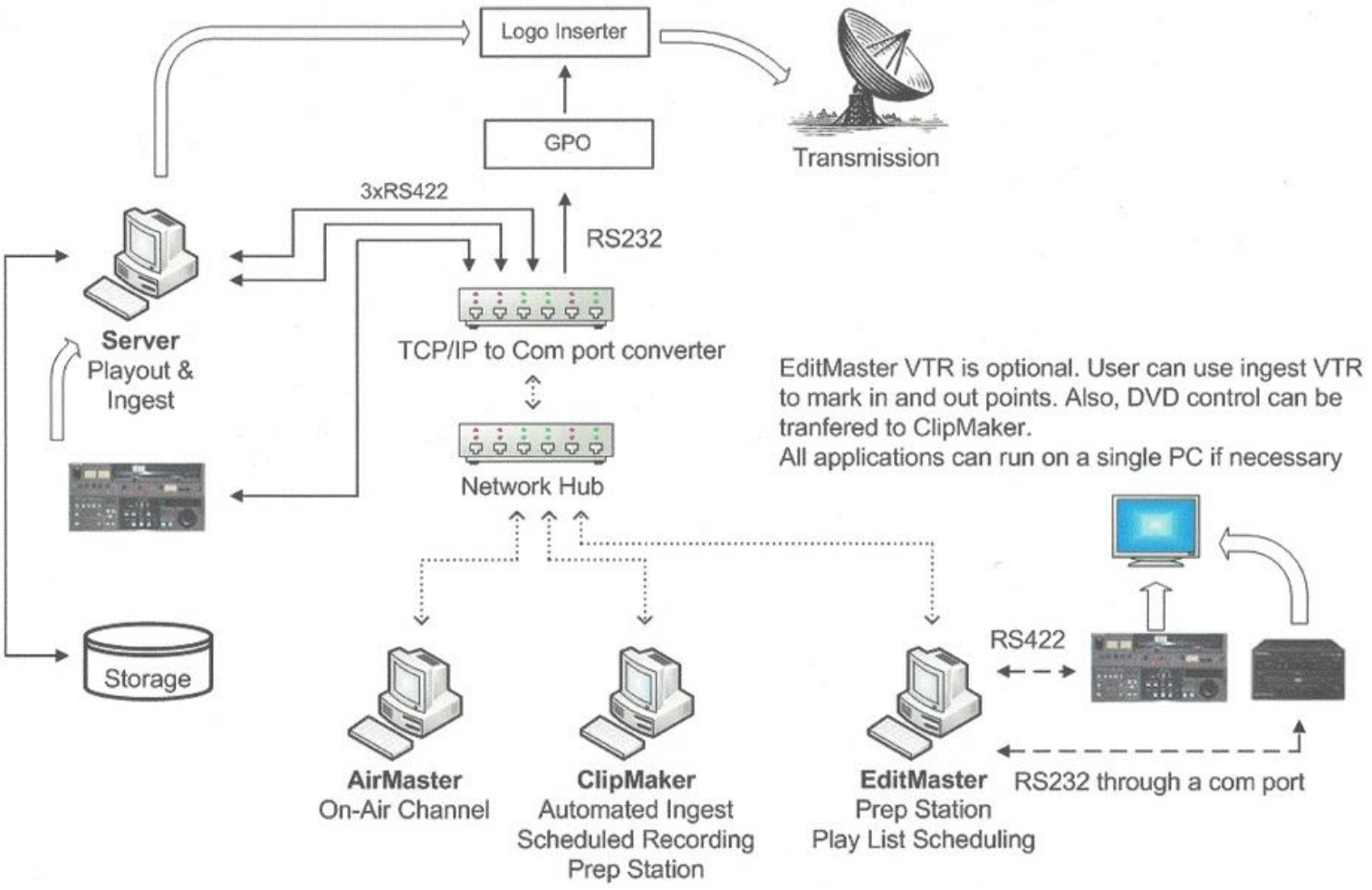
QBox, a 200 button shot box with playlist and routing switcher control, can also be connected to the system the same way. Even though AirMaster can do live events, this application goes further and gives user more flexibility and faster access to clips residing on video server.

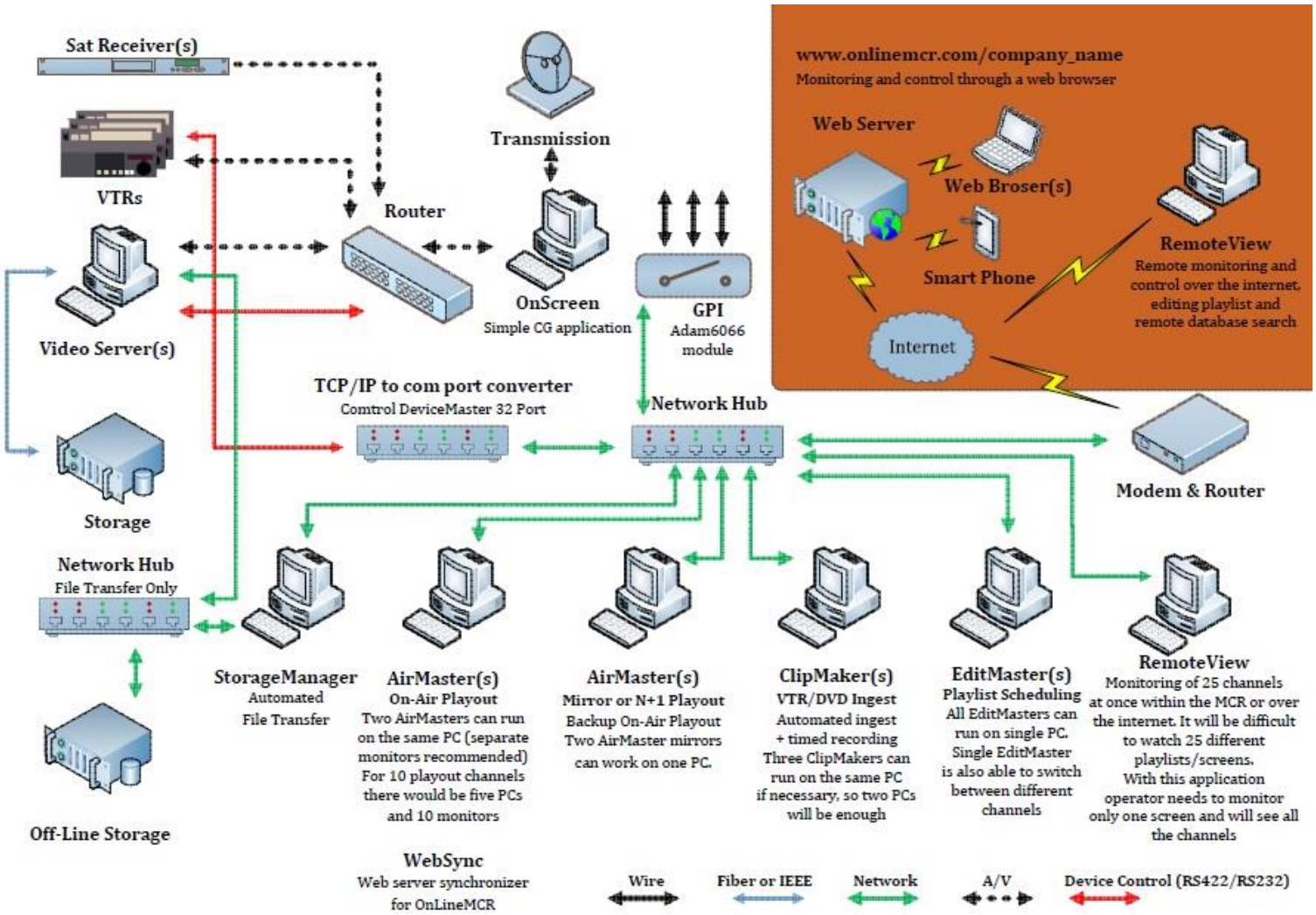
Each application can control any device of the system, so for example on-air playout application can use a VTR on-air and then release it so ClipMaker can use the same device for ingest. Again, it is even possible to control devices over the internet. Switching control of a device from one application to another is done the simplest possible way: by clicking disconnect button on one application and clicking connect on the other.

Playout and ingest can be monitored and controlled using Remote View, a unique central casting application that will let you control and monitor up to 20 channels that can literally be all over the world.

Since each on-air channel can be monitored by multiple Remote Views at any given time, while being used by operators in the central facility, it can be used by managers as well, as they can monitor and control on-air playout from their home or any other place with internet connection and assure that on-air list runs as planned.

A system example. The simplest system requires only one PC and four com ports




Sat Receiver(s)
Transmission
www.onlinemcr.com/company_name
Monitoring and control through a web browser
Web Server
Web Broser(s)
VTRs
Router
RemoteView
Remote monitoring and control over the internet, editing playlist and remote database search
Smart Phone
OnScreen
Simple CG application
GPI
Adam6066 module
Video Server(s)
Internet
TCP/IP to com port converter
Comtrol DeviceMaster 32 Port
Network Hub
Modem & Router
Storage
Network Hub
File Transfer Only
StorageManager
Automated File Transfer
AirMaster(s)
On-Air Playout
Two AirMasters can run on the same PC (separate monitors recommended) For 10 playout channels there would be five PCs and 10 monitors
AirMaster(s)
Mirror or N+1 Playout
Backup On-Air Playout
Two AirMaster mirrors can work on one PC.
ClipMaker(s)
VTR/DVD Ingest
Automated ingest + timed recording
Three ClipMakers can run on the same PC if necessary, so two PCs will be enough
EditMaster(s)
Playlist Scheduling
All EditMasters can run on single PC. Single EditMaster is also able to switch between different channels
RemoteView
Monitoring of 25 channels at once within the MCR or over the internet. It will be difficult to watch 25 different playlists/screens. With this application operator needs to monitor only one screen and will see all the channels
Off-Line Storage
WebSync
Web server synchronizer for OnLineMCR
Wire
Fiber or IEEE
Network
A/V
Device Control (RS422/RS232)

European Communication Services

Customers:

METV, Limassol, Cyprus
FETV, Limassol, Cyprus
WHME, South Bend, In
WHT, South Bend, In
KWHD, Denver, Co
KWHS, Colorado Springs, Co
WHMB, Indianapolis, In
Sat7, Nicosia, Cyprus
Omega Plus, Bratislava, Slovakia
Sigma, Nicosia, Cyprus
TV IN, Podgorica, Montenegro
KDOR TV 17, Broken Arrow, OK
KWHB TV 47, Tulsa, OK
KWHE, Honolulu, Hawaii
WHNO, New Orleans, La
TVT89, Timisoara, Romania

ECS - European Communication Services - is a top provider of End-to-End TV and radio distribution services through premium satellite packages and leading cable operators enabling broadcasters to strengthen their market footprints. Focusing on broadcast solutions for DTH, DTT and IPTV, we offer TV Channels and broadcasters secure access to satellites, cable operators and terrestrial packages throughout Europe, Africa, the Middle East, North and South America, Asia, and Australia. Our complete solutions employ remote or fully managed playout, transmission of backhaul satellites, fibre optic connections or over the Internet.

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