

GBS ALLIANCE SHAPES RADIO BROADCASTING WITH AOIP TECHNOLOGY

After exploring extensive proofs-of-concept thoroughly with GBS Alliance, Vietnamese radio broadcaster Voice of Vietnam (VOV) has chosen to adopt the AES67 audio-over-IP (AoIP) standard for its new digital mixing consoles and routing systems.

Using the Axia Livewire+ AoIP system developed by the Telos Alliance, VOV was able to construct a “technologically advanced network” over its existing infrastructure.

Perry Leong, senior manager for GBS Alliance, explained: “With this installation, VOV is able to benefit from cost reduction in installation materials, ease of installation and maintenance. Users can now deliver high reliability, low-latency uncompressed digital audio, logic plus routing control, and programme associated data over Ethernet.”

Additionally, Axia intercom systems were installed to connect all VOV’s studios and master control room over the same network that supports the Axia audio consoles and routers. Ten analogue production studios were also furnished with Axia xNodes, which GBS Alliance described as the building blocks of an Axia system. This, according to Leong, has enabled older studios that are queued for the phase upgrades to enjoy the benefits of Livewire+, including control routing of audio feeds and sources in the distributed Livewire+ AoIP system.

In Singapore, GBS Alliance recently helped the Ngee Ann Polytechnic School

of Humanities and Social Sciences (HMS) to build a new studio with Axia Livewire+ AoIP products. HMS was looking for a long-term solution to address end-of-life equipment, eliminate cumbersome installations, and reduce tedious maintenance work by cutting unnecessary studio equipment.

For this particular project, Leong explained that GBS Alliance had to work with a very tight project deadline, as the studio had to be completed before the commencement of a new semester. “In less than 10 working days, GBS Alliance managed to hand over the project, having completed the installation, commissioning and training,” he added.

The project consists of two studios — on-air and production — powered by Axia IQ and RAQ respectively. With the new studios, HMS can now increase its resources for their students by dividing studio usage, or to combine them as one to simulate a “real” broadcast workflow. Furthermore, the Axia RAQ system is built with a mobile rack, which can easily be used for campus outside broadcasting (OB) projects such as open house events.

Leong continued: “The HMS technical team was also pleased with how much

cabling works was reduced and replaced with the familiar Ethernet infrastructure, and further assured by the five-year standard warranty provided by the Telos Alliance.”

Having built PSB Academy’s first campus radio in Singapore with a digital TDM mixing console system in 2010, GBS Alliance was approached earlier this year to design and build PSB City Campus’ radio in Marina Square, which is located at the heart of Marina Centre’s shopping, dining, entertainment and cultural hub.

As the school wanted a minimalist look in the studio without sacrificing traditional radio studio functions and amenities, GBS Alliance worked with PSB Academy’s design team to equip the campus radio studio with an Axia IQ system, powered by Livewire+.

Leong said: “During training and handover sessions, many users were asking us about the chunk of audio and control cables, and questioning the possibility to play out uncompressed high-quality multiple audio channels from playout software to the mixer. Their doubts were all answered by GBS team’s experiences with AoIP technology, especially with the Telos Alliance Livewire+ protocol.

“The Livewire+ AoIP technology is a scalable system where it can be used for both large broadcasters like VOV, and smaller Internet stations like Singapore’s Hindi station Radio Masti, and AFO Radio in Malaysia. GBS Alliance is the exclusive dealer for the Telos Alliance in Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, Indonesia and Cambodia.”

For the past 20 years, systems integrator GBS Alliance has been designing, installing and commissioning many professional turnkey radio and TV studios, as well as transmitter projects in the Asia-Pacific region.

With a team of qualified engineers, as well as a wide range of radio, TV and pro audio equipment and solutions, GBS Alliance provides customers with effective and timely proposals for their broadcast needs from all of its eight regional offices located across Asia. The company’s major clients include Singapore terrestrial broadcaster Mediacorp, Indonesian radio network Radio Republik Indonesia, Thai broadcaster MCOT, Malaysian satellite pay-TV operator Astro, among others. 



GBS Alliance has integrated the Axia Livewire+ AoIP system for Vietnamese radio broadcaster Voice of Vietnam’s new digital mixing consoles and routing systems.