

Success Stories

The flexibility of MediaEdge configurability and architecture allows for systems to be implemented in a wide variety of applications. MediaEdge success stories include:



Application: Hospitality — Hotel
Customer: SAS Radisson, St. Gallen, Switzerland

This installation delivers video over the local area network, removing the need for RF cabling. Typically, in hotel TV systems, the VOD element is digital but the standard TV programs are still transmitted by RF, so both network (CAT5) and RF cabling need to be installed throughout the hotel.

For the St. Gallen installation, 25 satellite TV and audio channels are fed into multiple Grass Valley MVRD2200 boards, generating 25 multicast streams. The VOD is organized as pay-per-view and stored on five servers. COMO developed the interface to the Micros Fidelio Opera property management system, as well as a software tool to manage files. Billing and message information is converted from Opera to the MediaEdge Web interface. The installation was developed with network partners Alcatel and Itelpro, Switzerland.

MediaEdge components used:

- 5 x MediaEdge-SVS
- 135 x MediaEdge-STB
- 25 x MVRD2200 boards (5 boards per server)

Application: Entertainment — Film Festival
Customer: Platforma Movie Festival, Athens, Greece

A full MediaEdge infrastructure was settled in order to cover the requirements of a short movie festival.

Several videotapes were encoded into MPEG-2 format using the Amber card installed into the MediaEdge Server. Each of the STB units was placed in the middle of a projection room and connected to a video projector. Using MediaEdge-SVS, time schedules were created in order to stream each short movie at specific times and dates, in specified projection rooms.



MediaEdge components used:

- 1 x MediaEdge-SVS
 - 2 x MediaEdge-STB
 - 1 x Amber card
-

Application: Entertainment — Performance
Customer: Schedia Theatre, Athens, Greece

Using an NLE system equipped with a DVREx RT Professional, the director of the theatric play, "The Wall," created a full range of MPEG-2 video clips that consisted of visual actors and motion backgrounds. The MPEG-2 video files were transferred via a local network to the MediaEdge Server and were registered as MediaEdge content. Then each STB was connected with a video projector stationed in four different positions on the roof of the theatre, covering a 180-degree round projection area.



During each performance of "The Wall," the director would change the motion backgrounds of the node while the actors each used STB remote controls, changing the visual actors with whom they were interacting. The plot of the drama was affected and advanced with each change of the video projections.

MediaEdge components used:

- 1 x MediaEdge-SVS
- 4 x MediaEdge-STB

Application: Healthcare — Teaching Hospital
Customer: Arcus Sportklinik, Germany

MediaEdge is used to broadcast live video from the operating theatre to auditoriums within the teaching hospital. Three sources (endoscope, fixed room camera, mobile room camera) are connected to a COMO VideoX3 unit that acts as a switcher. The doctor can select from the video sources or generate a picture-in-picture, with the added facility of an audio back-channel for commentary and feedback. MediaEdge provides high-quality video streams with minimal delay. After the initial installation, a COMO Content@Disk Media Management system was added to store material and to provide recorded clips to the auditorium via MediaEdge.



MediaEdge components used:

- 1 x MediaEdge-SVS
- 2 x MediaEdge-STB

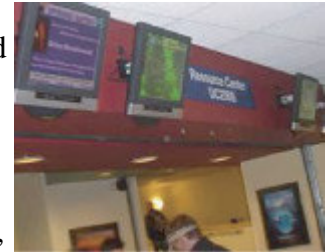
Application: Education — University Campus

Customer: Indiana University Purdue University Indiana, Indianapolis, IN, USA

The Indiana University Purdue University Indiana (IUPUI) campus includes a student center with common areas, advisor offices, classrooms, and a learning center. The objective was to create a centrally managed system for messaging and video program delivery throughout most of the common areas of the facility.



The MediaEdge Server software is installed on a Dell PowerEdge server, connected via Fibre Channel to a 250 gigabyte SAN device. Each MediaEdge set-top box is directly connected to the same gigabit switch. Video monitors are a mix of 40" plasma and 17" flat panel displays located around the campus. The MediaEdge server is configured with four Amber cards, each capable of real-time MPEG encoding. A VCR with closed-caption decoding is attached to several Amber cards, and a text messaging system is attached to another Amber. The IUPUI campus cable television system is connected to each VCR.



The display content is a mixed bag of video and text - meeting notices, classroom change information, and conference center updates. Live programs, including IUPUI team sports, are pulled from the campus cable television network. There is also provision for "breaking news," when appropriate, to better handle situations such as September 11, 2001, when faculty and students crowded around just three functioning TVs in the Student Center.

MediaEdge components used:

- 1 x MediaEdge-SVS
 - 9 x MediaEdge-STB
 - 4 x Amber card
-