CASE STUDY

Argosy Extends Reach of Touchscreen Interfaces between Operational and Local Apparatus Rooms at National Broadcaster HQ in London

Argosy and systems integrator VSC Design rolls out IP-based kvm extender programme and data cabling upgrade for British public service broadcaster

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Argosy, a leading international supplier of broadcast cables and infrastructure products, has announced it has supplied the UK’s public broadcaster with a number of ultra-reliable IP-based KVM extenders and data cabling as part of a building-wide hardware upgrade performed by systems integrator, VSC Design.

VSC Design was responsible for the overall systems integration, asset management, design, installation, change control, machine cloning and safety testing during the upgrade; and brought Argosy onboard to support the data cabling and KVM aspects.

The systems integrator rolled out a number of kvm-tec Smartline SVX ultra-reliable KVM extenders over IP, supplied by Argosy, at the broadcaster’s HQ in London. This technology extends the reach of touchscreen interfaces relating to the building-wide BNCS control system between operational areas and local apparatus rooms (LAR). The project also involved an upgrade to Windows 10 and a replacement of the server hardware associated with the BNCS control system.
„The broadcaster considered and tested a number of KVM solutions, but opted for the Smartline SVX from kvm-tec as a cost-effective and highly effective choice,“ said John Hartz, projects director at VSC Design. „Many of the KVM extensions were of a significantly long cabling length. Existing infrastructure was utilised and the kvm-tec has one of the longest extension length specifications on the market. These units performed flawlessly on all links.”

“During this project we had to plan carefully for new connectivity, rack space allocation and change control to keep operational impact to a minimum. With the machines securely installed in restricted areas thanks to the KVM extenders, the risk to interruption of services remained minimised. We are working with Argosy on a significant number of UK projects, for which Argosy has supplied large quantities of cable, connectors, CTPs and so on. Argosy is a cost-effective, reliable supplier and a pleasure to work with.”

kvm-tec’s rapid switching and resilient extenders are aimed at high pressure environments such as broadcast facilities. Quasi-limitless matrix switching systems and up to 48 / 2000 endpoints can be implemented flexibly and cost-effectively without the need for central, expensive switches with limited endpoints.

„We are delighted to have been chosen to supply VSC Design with the necessary KVM equipment to support this major upgrade,“ said Chris Smeeton, director at Argosy. „The kvm-tec technology allows individual endpoints such as PCs, monitors, and so on, to behave passively when controlled via the software. This results in less data traffic on large systems, as the end point only requires information at the moment of switching. These extenders, combined with a standard network switch, reduce cabling requirements and therefore, networking costs.“

The Smartline SVX is an ultra-reliable KVM extender over IP for the transmission of USB and DVI video signals via CAT5e/6/7. It comes in single and dual versions, offers a resolution of 1920x1200@60Hz and a distance in copper of up to 150m/492ft. It is USB2.0 transparent, with USB save features, upgrades to USB memory. It supports switching systems up to 48 endpoints.
About Argosy

Established in 1984, Argosy is recognised as a leading international distributor with a broad range of experience in advising and supplying studio installation products such as cabling, connectivity solutions, equipment racking, cable management, and patching. With customer locations around the world, Argosy is renowned as a “one-stop-shop” for systems integrators and end-users alike. The company was acquired by IEWC in March 2015 and now forms part of the company’s Broadcast & Communications division. For more information, please go to

www.argosycable.com

Press Contact for Argosy:
Susie Haldar
MKM Marketing Communications
susie@mkm-marcomms.com
Tel: +44 (0) 7734 694909

About VSC Design

We have a wealth of experience in designing, planning and installing broadcast systems from small post facilities to complete broadcast centres. Our team blend in-depth technical knowledge with expertise, keeping at the forefront of technological developments. For more information, please go to

www.vscdesign.com