

Aurora integration with Evertz Mediator





Aurora file-based QC integrated within the Evertz Mediator content management and workflow platform, delivering confidence in your media from ingest to playout

Processing multi-format content cost effectively for multi-channel broadcasting whilst simultaneously adding new platforms such as on-demand and mobile, requires an all new approach to media logistics and a significant increase in efficiency. The unique Mediator content management and workflow platform, with its integrated Playtime multichannel playout and unified control options, provides efficient tools to re-purpose and deliver multi-format content. To increase efficiency and build confidence in the quality of the media, Mediator integrates with the Aurora auto QC tool from Tektronix. By placing this tool in line with the Mediator workflow, content may only need to be viewed by exception, for example when concerns are raised by the Aurora automatic checks.

Aurora is the automated file-based QC tool that you can rely on to place in your Mediator workflow to identify any visual, audio or metadata issues at ingest and before playout. The Tektronix focus on minimising false positives and a high degree of correlation to human perception means that our test reports highlight just the issues you need to address, presented to the user in the familiar Mediator interface. Our architecture delivers guaranteed QC capacity and unrivalled speed of QC analysis to meet the demands for whatever your size of media operation and Mediator system deployed.

Evertz

Evertz is a global leader in the design and manufacturing of audio and video infrastructure equipment for the television broadcast and film industry. It has expanded the breadth of its high performance systems for the broadcast market and has increased its worldwide HDTV, DTV, 3Gb/s, and Ultra HD presence. A publicly traded company listed on the TSX, with over 1,200 employees worldwide, Evertz continues to provide innovative, cost effective solutions that not only support and bridge both digital and analog worlds, but also advance the broadcast industry into new domains.

Aurora

Visual artifacts that can be detected by Aurora include Macro-block Noise/Cloud, Up-conversion, Comb Artifacts, Field Order Swaps, Tape/Digital Hits, Perceptual & Film Artifacts, Black/Freeze Frames, Letter-boxing/Pillar-boxing, Color Bars, PSE/Flash Detection, and Cadence Change. Audio artifacts that can be tested include Silence, Drop-outs, Peaks (dBTP, PPM, dBFS), Average Levels (R128, ATSC, ARIB), Clipping, Snaps/Clicks/Pops, Test Tones, Phase Swaps and Hiss/Hum.



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Solution Architecture and Workflow Overview

Mediator Workflow Define workflows that include file-based QC jobs

Mediator Ingest & Upload Ingest and import content and deliver it to where it is required



Mediator Content Manager Monitor QC jobs and review QC test results



Mediator Playtime Multi-channel playout with confidence in the content quality



Mediator's integrated content management and workflow drives media operations, increasing efficiency across departments and minimising errors. A graphical user interface makes designing workflows simple, from ingest to playout and distribution. For example, Mediator makes ingest and uploading of media a unified process of accepting tapes or files into the workflow and ensuring that all content goes through the same carefully defined processes, delivering material to the right place at the right time with maximum throughput.

Mediator integrates with the Tektronix Aurora file-based QC tool and places it in line with the Mediator workflow as defined in the workflow graphical display. Results of these tests are presented to the user in the familiar Mediator interface allowing them to decide the best course of action. Automatic QC tools can also be used to verify content as it is transcoded and presented to various delivery platforms including ondemand and mobile enabling transcoding errors to be easily and quickly spotted and therefore rectified.

Aurora VUs (verification units) are installed on separate standard IT hardware servers, blades or fully virtualized infrastructure. The quantity of VUs installed and the number of servers depends on the number of concurrent QC tasks and the speed of QC analysis required. One or more Aurora Controllers are installed to manage QC job queues, allocating QC tasks to the next available VU instance. Each VU tests one file at a time with dedicated CPUs and GPU acceleration for guaranteed QC capacity.

Using Playtime, the multi-channel automation option for Mediator, broadcasters and service providers can publish multi-format content far beyond traditional television channels. Playtime is directly integrated with Mediator's multi-language workflow and can report workflow and content status on a simple per channel or service basis. In addition to missing material or not available for transmission, Playtime when used with Mediator workflow can report any workflow state such as failed QC or awaiting TX Approval.

Contact Us

For complete information and sales contacts, go to www.tektronix.com/file-based-qc.

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