



## **For Immediate Release**

### **aQ Broadcast announces completion of centralised transmission project**

*Comux UK implements playout for twelve That's TV channels using aQ's modular system*

**READING, UK. 12th September 2017** – aQ Broadcast Limited, which provides an integrated range of newsroom, scripting, automation and media management software alongside video server and production hardware, has announced that the UK Local TV Network, operated by Comux UK Ltd., this summer upgraded to a centralised transmission system supporting all of the twelve That's TV (TTV) city-based channels. The new system was specifically designed by aQ Broadcast to fit the TTV workflow. TTV channels run continuously with a mix of news coverage from the local studios along with long-form shows. Production and scheduling is handled locally and all transmission originates at the Comux Network Operations Centre (NOC) in Birmingham.

All playout for the TTV group runs on aQ aVS transmission servers. In the central system there are five of these video engines, each providing support for up to three parallel channels, with four machines handling the normal outputs and the fifth serving as an online spare. Each transmission server also provides caption, graphics and branding capability for the channels it supports, based on the specific transmission schedule.

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A critical piece of the centralised system and the element that links the dozen local studios to the NOC is the Media Asset Management (MAM) system from aQ Broadcast. The MAM database is based on the aQ QSIA architecture and manages all content across the central system, both on the central store and at the local site-based servers. This topology enables users to view all media assets, whether created centrally or by any of the local studios, and to input placeholders for content still under production. The aQ MAM automatically populates the placeholders when the matching asset is available.

aQ also designed and implemented the virtual private network that supports the flow of media, forming the basis of a wide area network that allows each station in the group to manage its running orders and schedules across the centralised system. The schedules run on the aQ QTx transmission system, which applies schedule changes to the output dynamically, without the need to export or transfer a list from one system to another. aQ CEO Neil Hutchins notes, “an important aspect of the TTV operations is that the output of each channel is closely monitored, so that in the event a live feed fails or a schedule runs short, the system inserts a holding graphic automatically until the fault is cleared”. Hutchins says the automatic monitoring is “supported by notifications to system administrators via the aQ system and by wider email alerts to appropriate distribution lists”.

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**About aQ Broadcast:**

aQ Broadcast Limited was established in 2013 after a management buyout of the workflow division of Autocue and is now the only British company to design, develop, manufacture and support an integrated range of scripting, newsroom, automation and media management software alongside video server and production hardware. aQ Broadcast is headquartered in the Thames Valley, UK, with offices across the UK, in Charlotte NC, USA and in Auckland, New Zealand.

aQ Broadcast will be exhibiting at IBC 2017 – hall 10, A42c, as part of the UK ‘NXTech zone’

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