

Aurora integration with IPV Curator



Integrating Aurora file-based QC into the IPV Curator workflow for advanced, fast turnaround media asset and metadata management

To achieve great programming and maximize the return on their archived assets, broadcasters are increasingly investing in complete end to end media Production Asset Management solutions. The IPV Curator solution delivers market leading functionality for archive and media asset management, content preparation and re-purposing, sports logging and production, news production and reality TV workflows. Integral to these workflows is file-based QC using Aurora.

Aurora is the automated file-based QC tool that you can rely on to place in your IPV Curator environment to identify any visual, audio or metadata issues anywhere from ingest to distribution. Aurora's focus on minimizing false positives and high degree of correlation to human perception means that test reports highlight just the issues you need to address. Our architecture delivers guaranteed QC capacity and unrivalled speed of QC analysis to meet the demands whatever the size of your IPV Curator operation.

Together IPV Curator and Aurora provide an integrated and highly efficient workflow that all your operators can access, building confidence in the quality of your media and making more out of your media assets.

IPV Curator

IPV Curator is a real-time Media Asset Management solution which makes it easy for you to achieve collaborative workflows in a fast paced, live production environment. With Curator, you are assured immediate access to all incoming media and archive content on a standard IT infrastructure. Modular, highly scalable and affordable, Curator gives you unprecedented video and audio handling at the desktop, and incorporates IPV's proven SpectreView technology.

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



The IPV solution consists of multiple IT servers running IPV software components, services and database, connected to a broadcast server for storage of both high resolution and proxy files. Automated broadcast and media workflows are scripted, managed and tracked by the IPV Process Engine, moving files and metadata as required for an efficient operation. File-based QC using Aurora can be placed at any point in the workflow that QC is required, such as ingest, archive, post production and before distribution.

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.

In accordance with the workflow design, files are passed by the IPV Process Engine to Aurora QC for analysis. These may be from external file transfers (Signiant, Aspera...), archives (FPD, DAC...) or locally ingested using the IPV Ingest Manager. The Aurora Controller manages the allocation of QC tasks to the Aurora VUs. When analysis is complete the Aurora XML report is automatically detected by the IPV XChange software which triggers the IPV Process Engine to add the Aurora QC Report to the asset and IPV Curator updates the asset metadata.

To review the QC issues the asset is selected on the IPV Curator client. Each reported issue is listed and can be selected. The IPV Server frame accurately streams the asset video to the client at the exact frame of the issue. The operator can build an EDL and add annotations detailing all the edits required. This EDL is exported together with the media to an external NLE (Apple, Avid, Adobe...) for correction. The corrected media file is exported from the NLE and automatically imported into the IPV Curator system for another QC check or immediate use as defined in the workflow design.

Contact Us

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