

Nevion helps Al Kass Sports Channels transition from SDI to IP

New infrastructure allows broadcaster to connect to facilities across Qatar

Oslo, Norway, 7 April 2020 - [Nevion](#), award-winning provider of virtualized media production solutions, has announced Al Kass Sports Channels, a public broadcast service provider of information and sports entertainment programming in Qatar, has chosen Nevion's flagship products VideoIPath and Virtuoso to connect its main facility with three other broadcast facilities across the country through a flexible IP-based media network infrastructure.

Al Kass Sports Channels covers major sporting events in Qatar and the Gulf countries, including the Emir Cup, Qatar Cup, Gulf Cup, and international football friendlies.

Previously, the channels had been exchanging media between Qatar Television (QTV), Al Bidda Tower in Corniche and BeIn Sports using microwave links. To support enhancements to the quality and cost-effectiveness of transmission, Al Kass Sports Channels required a state-of-the-art, scalable and flexible switching infrastructure that would support its eventual migration to higher resolutions and an all-IP environment.

Initially, the new solution would provide reliable ultra-low latency IP transport for uncompressed and compressed HD-SDI, DVB-ASI, intercom and data between the sites over a ring network topology. However, it also needed to be ready to handle 4K/UHD, HDR and SMPTE ST 2110 to support Al Kass's plans. Of course, the solution needed to offer the highest security and content integrity, and provide a dedicated point-to-point connection with no single point of failure.

The solution chosen by Al Kass was based on Nevion's flagship products, VideoIPath (orchestration and SDN control software), Nevion Virtuoso (software defined media node), and Nevion eMerge IP switches.

The Virtuosos are used for the in real-time IP adaption and transport protection for video, audio and data, and also to provide encoding and decoding capabilities for both HD and 4K/UHD video feeds.

VideoIPath manages and orchestrates the complete network. It provides deterministic routing of all media and data streams in the IP media ring network and keeps track of

bandwidth allocation on each link within the network to avoid any over-provisioning and thus delivers predictable performance.

This solution encompasses a very high level of redundancy, both single and multi-point failure protections through automatic failovers in east and west direction of the ring network.

Samer Younes, Consultant Engineer, Al Kass Sports Channels, commented: "Nevion has played a significant role in our move from SDI to IP. The new IP-based network is allowing us to get more from other facilities, improving the quality of our transmissions and enabling us to create a more economical, futureproof proposition, including a much greater scope for remote production."

Hans Hasselbach, Chief Commercial Officer, Nevion, added: "The Al Kass network is one of the major names in Qatar's broadcast industry and we're pleased to have delivered a flexible solution that offers the ability for future distributed capability. Our VideoIPath and Virtuoso solutions will enable the broadcaster to better share resources across four locations to continue providing high-quality sports broadcasting 24 hours a day, seven days a week."

For more information about Nevion and its solutions, please visit the [Nevion website](#).

About Al Kass

Al Kass Sports Channels is licensed in Qatar, which broadcasts 24 hours a day 7 days a week. It provides a broadcast service in the form of information and sports entertainment programming designed to meet the public interest of Qatar. Al Kass is responsible to the government of Qatar for the day-to-day operation of the broadcast facility for compliance with all laws, rules and regulations pursuant to the operation of the station.

The Al Kass network has four free-to-air channels (Al Kass One, Al Kass Two, Al Kass Four, Al Kass Five) and four encrypted channels (Al Kass Three, Al Kass Six, Al Kass Seven, Al Kass Eight). Al Kass covers international sports news, some English programs and events with a special focus on football in Qatar and the GCC. It covers the MENA Region, whole Asia through AsiaSat 5 and the America through Galaxy 19.

Al Kass covers events such as the Emir Cup, Qatar Cup, Samla Desert Trek, Senyar Fishing Competition, Qatar Sports Day, Qatar National Day, Qatar Stars League, Gulf Cup, FINA, Diamond League, International Football Friendly Matches, Football matches with Arab Teams (GCC Nationals) and other sports related events in Qatar.

About Nevision

As the architect of virtualized media production, Nevision provides media network and broadcast infrastructure solutions to broadcasters, telecommunication service providers, government agencies and other industries. Increasingly based on IP, virtualization and Cloud technology, Nevision's solutions enable the management, transport and processing of professional-quality video, audio and data – in real time, reliably and securely. From content production to distribution, Nevision solutions are used to power major sporting and live events across the globe. Some of the world's largest media groups and telecom service providers use Nevision technology, including AT&T, NBC Universal, Sinclair Broadcast Group Inc., NASA, Arqiva, BBC, CCTV, EBU, BT, TDF and Telefonica.

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