ASTRA MCR
Cloud Control of VOS360

White Paper

ABSTRACT

The ASTRA Master Control Room (MCR) solution seamlessly integrates with Harmonic's VOS360 dedicated end-to-end video cloud Solution as a service (SaaS) platform. VOS360 is fully controlled by ASTRA MCR for hybrid, on-premises, and cloud-based playout using a single user interface, enabling users to easily manage on-air operations in multiple locations, providing broadcasters and media organizations the best of both worlds. While all aspects of playout can be on-premises or in the cloud, ASTRA MCR playout control provides users their choice for optimum control of their assets.
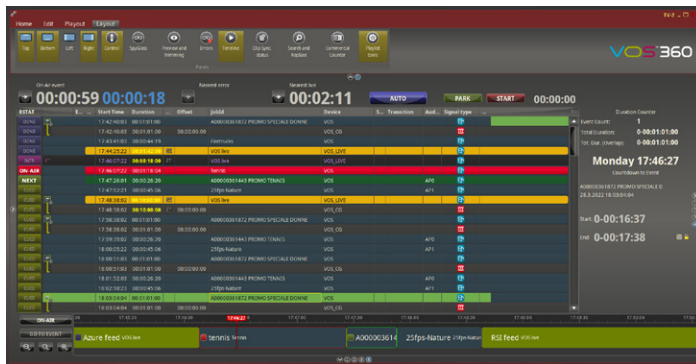
INTRODUCTION

For years, Aveco has teamed with Harmonic to offer the best hybrid, on-premises, and in the Cloud playout workflows. Prior to looking at how ASTRA MCR controls the VOS360, we'll first give a brief introduction to each solution.

ASTRA MCR specializes in multi-channel systems, automating all master control room functions. It controls ingest, QC, playout, routers, master control switchers, graphics and other devices. Single and multi-site operations are supported with full redundancy or selective redundancy and with implementation of different tools for the range of programs.

VOS360 is a channel origination and distribution cloud-native platform designed to help users launch linear and streaming channels quickly.

MCR & VOS360 INTEGRATION

Aveco's ASTRA MCR handles control for both on-premises and cloud assets within a single system. This allows organizations to use on-premises systems for regular playout, plus VOS360 for a complete delivery path from file playout to distribution for pop-up/cloud channels, as well as 1+1 redundancy of on-premises systems in the Cloud for a cost-effective and robust backup playout system or disaster recovery (warm or cold) that can easily be added to current on-prem systems.

As noted above, VOS360 cloud playout is controlled by ASTRA MCR. This is in the same manner that on-prem playout is handled. There's no additional learning curve. Common events are handled the same way, regardless of where the commands for those events are being sent. For example, events can be fully scheduled or controlled manually by an operator, all with standard GUI features available for cloud control.

As the playlist is prepared in advance, playout can remain active for many hours, even during an unusual situation on-prem. This automatically gives you a level of disaster recovery.

The combined system lets you chose the cloud service that's right for you: Amazon Web Services, Microsoft Azure, and Google Cloud are supported, with various regions and zones supported as well.

ADDITIONAL INTEGRATION

The ASTRA MCR/VOS360 cloud playout solution can be fully integrated into the GEMINI MAM solution. ASTRA automation takes care of all necessary transfers to the cloud and post-transfer asset management.

Additionally, ASTRA MCR/VOS360 is fully compatible with all ASTRA modules such as import from the traffic system, export of as-run logs, and more.

To learn more about the ASTRA MCR/VOS360 cloud playout solution, please contact info@aveco.com

CURRENTLY SUPPORTED FEATURES OF VOS360

- Clip Playout
- Routing of Sources
- Breaking News
- Graphics, Branding
- SCTE-35 Ad Insertion
- Audio Grooming Profiles
- Full Integration to ASTRA MAM and GEMINI
   - Metadata management
   - Automatic management of storage, such as AWS S3, Microsoft Azure Blob or Google Cloud Storage

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