

Vienna, April 2021 – Case Study, ORF

JUST PLUG & PLAY IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY

ORF emergency broadcasts rely on GENESIX VideoServers

Simplicity. High quality. Failsafe reliability. Ease of use. Just like every other broadcast solution developed by STRYME for the Austrian Broadcast Corporation (ORF) over the past 15 years, the emergency system had to meet the exact same criteria – and more.



If the ORF center and main production studios are incapacitated by a disaster hitting the greater Vienna region, emergency operations must bring ORF back on air in a snap. After all, many people must be kept informed.

STRYME acted swiftly and devised two ultra-slim GENESIX V9 VideoServers as the brain of

a hassle-free, future-proof plug and play solution. Tucked away at a safe location in the Alpine Republic, the system is ready to be activated at any time via secure remote access.

Josef Semler, Senior Project Manager at the Austrian Broadcasting Corporation (ORF) elaborates in detail.

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Josef Semler

Senior Project Manager
at ORF



When we decided to set up an emergency broadcast system, we knew the GENESIX VideoServer would again be the right choice. We have worked with GENESIX solutions for years and each one has proven to be reliable in 24/7 setup.

When we asked STRYME to help us realize this new project, they quickly came up with an excellent plug and play solution in form of two powerful GENESIX VideoServers. We built our emergency system around this solid foundation, knowing the video servers would warrant simplified broadcast operations in the event of a disaster.”

Plug & Play with GENESIX if disaster strikes

STRYME equipped each of the 2U GENESIX V9 VideoServers with 4 reconfigurable channels (SDI SD/HD/4K ready), upgraded the storage capacity to 28TB, included the GENESIX Ingest/Playout/Media Asset Management and Master Control Playout package as well as the GENESIX LTC/VITC Support for linear and vertical timecodes. If an emergency event incapacitates the ORF Centre in Vienna, the GENESIX VideoServers have been programmed to automatically activate and pick up operation. Similarly, they will automatically upload ORF1 and ORF2 programs and delete them after a certain period of time.

Simple seamless integration

On site at the remote location, ORF simply installed the compact plug and play solution by

connecting the GENESIX VideoServers with the digital broadband internet, its incoming and outgoing production lines, two mobile viewpoint sources, the HD satellite uplink and downlink signal.

ORF rounded off the setup with remote access to its intranet, use of an identical replicated version of its programming schedule, and the possibility for live broadcasts via satellite to enable minimized emergency operations. If needed, ORF could even merge its two main program channels ORF1 and ORF2 into one. The national radio channel Ö3 can also be accessed remotely. In this case, the satellite signal will be converted for terrestrial transmission.

Provided that the internet remains functional, ORF viewers can continue using the ORF-TVthek which stores more than 200 ORF TV programs as livestreams and Videos-on-Demand.

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If disaster strikes, ORF can initiate emergency broadcasts in no time. Relevant persons have received an emergency USB stick, granting them immediate access and use of all required resources.

Meeting future needs

“We are very proud to count as ORF’s partner of choice. Nonetheless, this project challenged us to meet our client’s needs once again with top quality, failsafe reliability, and the right future-proof solution. That is why we looked

beyond tomorrow to anticipate the effects of changing circumstances and market dynamics on our client’s operations. In doing so, we combined the latest broadcast technology with rock-solid, around-the-clock stability in the latest version of our flagship product, the GENESIX VideoServer. We wanted to make sure that ORF can fully rely on the GENESIX VideoServers’ key features if and when emergency broadcasts are activated,” says STRYME CEO Goce Zdravkoski.

About STRYME



STRYME is an innovative video solution expert for broadcasters, telecommunication companies and cable MSOs. Based in Vienna and San Francisco the company is known for uncompromising quality and reliable sport, live and news production solutions that simplify, speed up and optimize daily workflows. STRYME is a trusted industry partner and have implemented projects on a global scale for well-known customers since 2005.

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About ORF



The Austrian Broadcasting Corporation (ORF), founded under public law, is Austria’s market leader, operating 4 national television and 12 radio channels as well as a comprehensive range of websites. Its headquarters and main production studios are in Vienna. The company operates regional studios in all 9 Austrian provinces, maintains a worldwide network of correspondents, and collaborates with other major public service broadcasters.

ORF reaches some 4 mio. viewers a day and holds a market share of 33.2%. Its 12 radio programs reach 74% of all Austrians. More than 128 mio. daily online visitors benefit from the vast array of video-on-demand services provided by ORF.at-Network.

Web: <https://der.orf.at/unternehmen/der-orf100.html>