



VSC Design deliver HD OB Truck to Jordanian Broadcaster, JRTV

Jordan's state Broadcaster, JRTV move closer to their 2016 target to migrate their entire chain from production through to transmission onto HD with the acquisition of their first High Definition Outside Broadcasting Truck.



JRTV's Mandate

VSC Design Ltd (VSC) recently provided Jordan's state Broadcaster, JRTV with their first High Definition Outside Broadcasting (HD OB) truck. The truck was designed to embrace the latest technology and would be the next generation of OB for JRTV, propelling them into HD production for the first time. JRTV took delivery of the truck in October 2014 with the collaborative integration project between VSC Design Ltd (VSC) and Sony Professional Solutions Middle East and Africa (PSMEA). JRTV's main mandate was to migrate its entire chain from production through to transmission to HD by 2016, with the OB truck forming an integral move towards this aim. JRTV's objective is to launch a third channel that focuses on news, contributes on social media networks and which will engage and communicate with audiences online allowing them to keep up-to-date with the latest news. The newly acquired truck will facilitate this requirement and fill the gap before the channel gets fully off the ground.

The Build

The coach build was with the assistance of UK based ASGB over a period of five months using a Mercedes Actros rigid truck chassis, capable of negotiating difficult terrains and able to deploy a small footprint due to its rigid chassis and expandable sides. VSC followed its philosophy of evaluate, design and deliver throughout to ensure the project was delivered smoothly despite the challenges of different time zones. Planning and coordination were an integral part of the

project. VSC ensured that the broadcast technical design and the physical systems integration and commissioning fell within the specified timeframe of three months. With the addition of 12 weeks for the chassis procurement, the completed truck was shipped to Jordan for handover to the client in October 2014.

The interior assumed a traditional OB layout consisting of the Rack Room - housing the bulk of technical equipment therefore requiring extra cooling. The temperatures escalate dramatically throughout Jordan, requiring the truck to maintain an ambient temperature inside of less than 21°C, whilst outside temperatures approach 50°C. The Engineering Room - which contains the camera line up controls and space for the truck supervising technical manager to operate from. The Production Gallery - two-row production gallery for graphics, VTR's, vision mixing, EVS operation and the Sound Gallery offering a flexible live commentary solution from GlenSound combined with a Trilogy talkback system and Studer audio mixer.

Bespoke Specifications

The latest high definition technology was utilised in the design of the OB truck. Nine Sony HDC series cameras with a collection of Fujinon lenses ranging from wide angle to high zoom box lenses allow for a wide range of events from sporting to conferences to be undertaken. At the centre of the file-based workflow stands an EVS cluster allowing instant replay and highlights as required. This combined with the high-quality acquisition from the Sony cameras, Sony vision mixer processing capabilities and highly configurable Studer audio mixer allows for an HD production to be seen and heard at its best but still with a simulcast in SD to link into legacy systems. The Gigawave HD D-CAM Clip-on wireless camera system, with remote control, allows for extra flexibility which is often a requirement in an OB environment where cables tend to be either too difficult or unsightly to run. The Pixel Power graphics with full Arabic capability enables fully finished multi-layer production ready "direct to air" capability to be used alongside the simultaneous clean feed for other distribution circuits. Using a combination of routable Evertz multiviewers and modular glue products feeding back SDI into the router core allows a concatenated flexible multiscreen layout adding an element of "hot desking." The truck is fitted with auto voltage regulators, motorised triax and power reels which all help to facilitate a quick technical start-up time, which combined with Eaton UPSs gives a sustained reliable uptime of the system, which was a client-stipulated priority. Its distinctive roof-mounted, weatherproof dome enclosed steerable satellite dish supplied from TracVision allows for a quick set-up and downlink of channels such as Arabsat or Nilesat. The availability of the new HD OB truck will enable JRTV to undertake more productions around Jordan including more sites which have previously been difficult to access such as Petra and the Dead Sea. Its primary function will be to record

"The most significant challenge facing this project was the geographical divide when project managing the coachbuild, broadcast technical design and physical builds. The customer and SI were based in different continents. It was only the good working relationship across all parties which enabled the project to be completed with the minimum of issues despite language and timezone differences".

**John Hartz, Projects Director,
VSC Design Ltd**

