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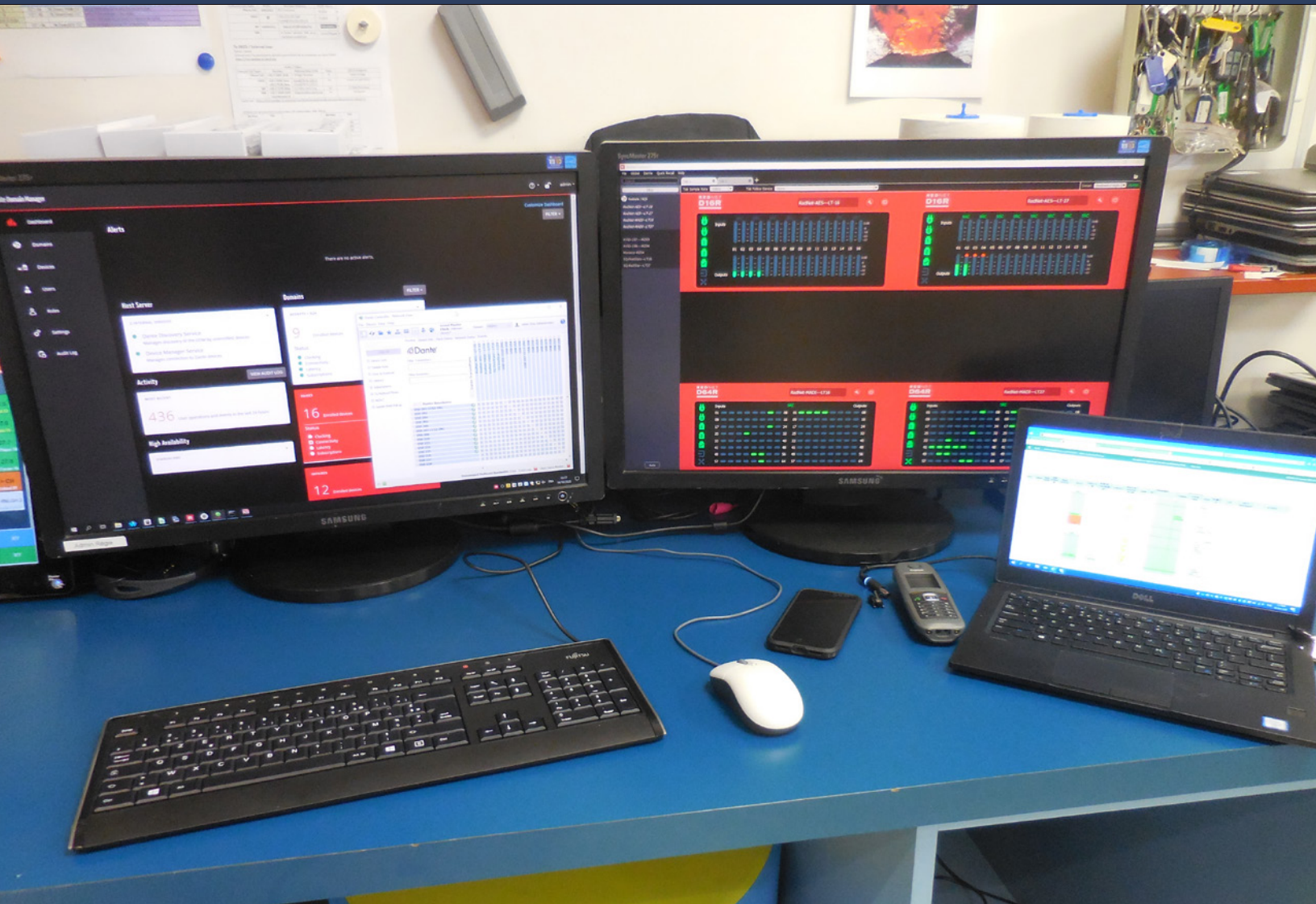


COMPLETE MANAGEMENT FOR YOUR NETWORKED AV

Chapter 1 of 4 in the Networking Expert Series

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PARIS-BASED INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION TURNS TO DANTE FOR INCREASED NETWORKING NEEDS

Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development continues work during pandemic travel restrictions via a Dante and Dante Domain Manager-backed setup designed to streamline virtual meetings.

The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), an international organization made up of 37 member countries that works to build better policies for better lives and based in Paris, France, is utilizing Audinate's Dante and Dante Domain Manager networking solutions as a key in its fortified infrastructure in supporting an increased slate of virtual meetings in light of the pandemic.

More than 1,000 conferences are organized annually in the OECD conference centers (La Murette and Boulogne). The OECD Conference Centre offers 3,000 square meters of modern and modular conference rooms and a range of facilities. Currently, OECD manages around 250 daily web conferences. Most high-level meetings offer interpretation in at least both official languages of the OECD and rely on collaboration, meaning interactions are dynamic amongst participants.

Audio visual services (audio, video and web conferencing) have been used for several years in OECD, but with the significant increase in remote participation requests in recent months, and the large-scale virtualization of OECD events, communication needs have evolved. Today, many meetings take place in a virtual (remote participants) or hybrid (presence of participants simultaneously on site and remotely) fashion.

In this context, the audiovisual department had to quickly adapt and rethink its strategy, in particular by adapting its digital infrastructure to new interpretation flows. “We had used Dante before the pandemic, but only for a few implementations,” Guillaume Carlier, Head of the Technical Audiovisual Support Unit at the OECD explains. “However we knew it was a powerful and flexible option. When the crisis happened, we saw a major change to the way we had traditionally held meetings, and quickly turned towards Dante based on our previous experience and knowing we could trust Dante to do what needed to be done.”

The needs of the OECD are unique, yet its Dante setup is designed to streamline the complexity of its work. An example is a meeting at the OECD can actually be held in a myriad of different languages, which requires real-time Interpretation services to be routed out appropriately to the correct participants’ linguistical needs, and brings OECD to a total of 47 Interpretation booths that can be operational at any given time.

To do this, a team of interpreters following social distancing rules work on-site to interpret the meeting. As their audio comes into the video conferencing platform used by the OECD the signals of interpreted audio are placed into the system over microphones connected to a Harris Communications Platinum MX Routing Matrix. The matrix sends the signals to either a Focusrite RedNet D64R MADI-Dante Bridge or a Focusrite RedNet D16 AES-Dante Bridge. From there, the interpretation is all Dante-native signals.

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AVAILABLE FOR ANALOG INPUT OR OUTPUT, DANTE AVIO ADAPTERS ARE ABLE TO CONNECT NEARLY ANY PIECE OF EQUIPMENT WITH AN AUDIO SIGNAL TO A DANTE-CONNECTED SYSTEM.

To use the audio in the video conferencing software, the signals are routed to Dante AVIO adapters connected to PCs. Available for analog input or output, Dante AVIO Adapters are able to connect nearly any piece of equipment with an audio signal to a Dante-connected system. AVIO-connected PCs are used to supply audio into the remote meetings. In addition to this the OECD also uses several Dante-enabled Allen & Heath AHM64 matrix processors to process all of its audio signals.

“Dante works and makes it seemingly simple,” Carlier states. “We use one AVIO per language, it could be English, French, Spanish, Chinese, and we connect the language directly to the PC running the video conference tool. From there, the audio is embedded in the video conference. This means we meet the criteria for our meeting language requirements.”

He adds that when meeting participants are on-site, they can also send the Dante signals across the network to the relevant meeting rooms and out through their infrared audio-conferencing system: “Really, we can send it anywhere and to any system. All you have to do is have someone choosing the right language for where it needs to go.”

To manage all of these signals effectively, the OECD relies on Dante Domain Manager network management software that enables user authentication, role-based security, and audit capabilities for Dante networks – all while allowing a smooth expansion of Dante systems over any network infrastructure.

Emmanuel Renoul, Technical Audiovisual Support at the OECD, notes that “because of how we work and what we do, we need very strong monitoring and control systems, especially with our audio networking. We need to know where our signals are going and control who has access to them. Dante Domain Manager provides us with just that. We knew this when we discovered that Dante Domain Manager allowed our audio to cross subnets. With Dante Domain Manager we keep all of our audio networks setup nice and tidy and it can be managed with just one click.”

The Dante system went fully live in September 2020 and multiple meetings with live interpretation have now been held effectively and efficiently. “At the beginning of this pandemic we knew it was going to be the right choice to move to Dante,” Carlier says. “The interpreters are working just as they normally do and the meetings are working efficiently. The OECD can continue working toward its goals.”

About Audinate

Audinate Group Limited (ASX:AD8) has a vision to pioneer the future of AV. Audinate’s award winning Dante AV over IP networking solution is the worldwide leader and used extensively in the professional live sound, commercial installation, broadcast, public address, and recording industries. Dante replaces traditional analogue cables by transmitting perfectly synchronized AV signals across large distances, to multiple locations at once, using nothing more than an Ethernet cable. Audinate is headquartered in Australia and has regional offices in the United States, United Kingdom and Hong Kong. Dante technology powers products available from hundreds of leading audio partners around the world. The company’s ordinary shares are traded on the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX) under the ticker code AD8.

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