



## Major British Broadcaster

# Case Study

Astec implemented an integrated monitoring and control solution for a major British satellite broadcaster. Since the system implementation the client is able to monitor and control over 20,000 devices across their entire broadcast chain with an increase in uptime to 99.9984%.

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## Background

Providing in excess of 600 channels of TV and radio in the UK, Astec's client is a broadcaster who distributes either direct-to-home via the Astra satellite system or via third party cable operators. Their studios feed the control hub for uplinks to four Astra satellites, and they are constantly looking for new ways to improve their product portfolio to stay ahead of the competition. To maintain an uninterrupted supply of its existing services, the broadcaster seeks to take advantage of the latest technologies, while ensuring that expansion and change are easily incorporated without the need for redesign.

## The Solution

The monitoring and control system provides a consolidated view of the status of the broadcast platform elements and associated services. It also provides remote control of equipment failover to backup hardware, and remote configuration. This can be undertaken from the Master Control Room or other input source (such as Video Server or tape), through editing, playout and transmission, to the headend (signal compression and multiplexing) and uplink to satellite systems.



## The Results

The flexibility of the system ensures that authorised personnel can monitor every disparate element of the platform (signal processing equipment, video servers, routers, satellite tracking equipment, etc.) at every physical location. Full remote control of hardware is possible so that faults can be rectified

immediately. The architecture has been designed with scope to include expansion into non-broadcast areas of the operation such as Mechanical and Electrical (M&E) system monitoring and other technology platform segments.

## Conclusion

The consolidated platform monitoring provided by the solution clearly shows where faults reside in the system and any associated services that have been affected. The single, consolidated view enables faults to be seen in context to other systems, resulting in rapid diagnosis of root causes. All faults are logged with a time and date stamp and can be sorted by system, service or device.



## About iBroadcast

iBroadcast is a flexible, comprehensive, scalable, end-to-end, multi-vendor Network Management System (NMS), and is capable of monitoring and controlling your entire broadcast platform. This enables operations teams to take timely, decisive action in response to issues that may affect service uptime. Across studios, MCRs, playout systems, glue, headends, uplinks, terrestrial transmitters, IT infrastructure, building management systems, etc. and many other third-party applications, iBroadcast is designed to be your single, consolidated, real-time operational dashboard - trusted by the world's leading broadcasters.

## Further Information

For further information relating to this case study or iBroadcast, please contact:-

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