

Disney/ABC Television Group

Case study



Delivering value-driven results to a Tier 1 broadcaster

When the Disney ABC TV Group (DATG) needed to provide broadcast quality, high-throughput backhaul transmission of over 200 local ABC affiliates, they turned to LTN.

ABC wanted to provide the highest quality, lowest latency, mezzanine contribution feeds of its entire affiliate footprint into centralized processing points and “meet me rooms” for the numerous OTT platforms that were carrying the live channels.

Dubbed the “virtual transponder” by DATG, LTN’s flexible IP transport network and high quality Leaf encoder provided the perfect solution.

The LTN Leaf combines low latency, MPEG-4 encoding with up to 16 audio channels, closed captioning, advanced audio handling features, and SCTE pass-through with patented access technology to LTN’s high performance MPEG transport stream multicast network.

LTN’s fully managed network carries each ABC station with under 300 milliseconds of latency end to end. This enables DATG to have the highest quality origination feed to centrally process each channel before handoff to various OTT platforms such as Hulu.

LTN gives DATG the ability to start with broadcast quality MPEG transport versus legacy systems that transcoded the content locally to file-based streams such as HLS. This enables the aggregation of all affiliates at the highest quality possible and provides additional services such as centralized downstream program replacement, ahead of the OTT platforms.

To date, hundreds of ABC affiliate stations are being managed by LTN’s lossless, high quality transport network and always-on technical operations center (TOC).

“With over 200 stations having varying bandwidth and multiple Internet service providers, a wide range of audio configurations and digital program markers, the LTN team really stepped up to the challenge and met every milestone DATG set,” said Chris Myers, CRO at LTN.