Solid State Logic is an inventor, designer and manufacturer of high end mixing consoles and recording studio hardware.

Solid State Logic

SOUND | | VISION

AdderView DDX USR (user receiver unit)

CHALLENGE

When making a decision on a product as complex and sophisticated as an audio console, where ease of use and intuitive control is critical, potential users need to spend time trialling the system. Central to SSL's facility and service is a suite of demonstration rooms allowing one of each model of console to be permanently displayed. Each model is installed in a room which has been professionally designed to be true to the acoustic and operational environment for which it is intended, whether that be broadcasting, music recording or live music.

Each of the six demonstration suites has its own permanently installed console, a central machine room holds an additional three workstations. These three workstations can be accessed by any of the six demonstration rooms as required. This requires a switching and extension solution which is where the use of KVM technology is required.

The architecture of a modern digital audio console is that the control surface communicates with a remote audio processing workstation. In addition, the audio signals themselves are increasingly being carried in multiplexes over the existing network.

As the technology in the digital audio consoles grew, so the manual patching that had been used in the past became increasingly difficult. Recently installed was a new IP infrastructure across the site which was present in each of the locations required for access.

SOLUTION

SSL had used Adder Technology's IP based KVM solutions in the past and turned to the company again for another high quality solution.
After consideration SSL opted for and self-installed the AdderView DDX30 matrix. This solution is made up of one AdderView DDX30 switch, four AdderView DDX CAM (computer access modules) at the computer and six AdderView DDX USR which sit at the user end and allow access to the nominated computers via an intuitive interface. The DDX also has the benefit of working over the existing infrastructure and integrates with a wide range of computers and USB devices

A further issue conquered by the DDX was the use of Mac hardware in the SSL set-up, meaning that Apple format DVI video had to be included in the KVM solution. This ruled out a number of other vendors whose processing platforms are severely slowed by Mac DVI. "Because we had already discovered the Mac issue we had some concerns about performance," said Chris Jowett of SSL. "Adder brought their units over, set the system up and it just worked."

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RESULT

Chris Jowett of SSL said 'We now have a very slick system which was easy to set up and has plenty of scope for us to expand in the future. From the user's perspective the picture looks great and the on-screen GUI matrix is very intuitive."

One of the issues with audio consoles is that they are frequently used in conjunction with video images, for example when matching pictures to sound in post-production, so in a KVM installation, picture quality is a critical factor.

SSL was delighted with the way the pictures looked, which was important given the concerns caused by problems with other manufacturers equipment and their Mac compatibility.

Adder account manager Stavros Theodoridis added that it was rewarding to work with such knowledgeable and experienced staff who were excited about the technology behind the Adder product.

RELATED PRODUCTS

Adder offer a vast range of products to suit your needs. Other products available include:

AdderView DDX30
DDX30

AdderView DDX USR
DDX-USR

AdderView DDX CAM
DDX-CAM-DP; DDX-CAM-DVI; DDX-CAM-VGA

ADDER CCS-PRO4
CCS-PRO4

AdderView DDX

Flexible 30 port, lossless, KVM matrix switch & extender for DVI, DisplayPort, VGA, USB & audio

AdderView DDX USR atop an AdderView DDX30 switch. Front (top) and rear (bottom)

ADDER TECHNOLOGY
Head Office
Tel: +44 (0)1954 780044 Fax: +44 (0)1954 780081
email: sales@adder.com www.adder.com

ADDER CORPORATION
USA and Canada
Tel: +1 888 932 3337 Fax: +1 888 275 1117
email: usasales@adder.com www.adder.com

ADDER SPAIN
Adder Technology
Tel: +34 9370 21967 Fax: +44 (0)1954 780081
email: sales@adder.com www.adder.com

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