

## Caracol TV, Lawo Devise Remote Signal Monitoring Infrastructure During Lockdown



Unusual times call for unusual measures. For several months, the broadcast community has lived in unusual times, and Lawo is actively working to help customers develop innovative technical workflows to keep operations running during lockdown, using remote solutions and online communication software.

Remote production has been a core piece of Lawo's IP solutions for years thanks to involvement worldwide with TV and streaming productions of major sports or cultural events around the world. Now, remote FAT (Factory Acceptance Testing), training and equipment demonstrations are a part of the portfolio as well.

Recently, Bogotá, Colombia's private media company Caracol purchased a 48-fader mc<sup>2</sup>56 mixing console with DALLIS frame for their News Studio, another mc<sup>2</sup>56 for their new OB van, and a mc<sup>2</sup>36 console for their Studio 10 facility.

Caracol safety protocols during Covid-19 require that the company's engineers be able to monitor and meter critical audio signals from home, so they contacted Lawo for a solution. On April 30, Lawo engineer Daniel Egea demonstrated remote monitoring solutions for Caracol engineers via two possible monitoring methods — one employing Lawo AoIP Stream Monitor software, and a second using R?LAY VPB software. Both solutions use RAVENNA / AES67 connectivity to monitor the mc<sup>2</sup> consoles.

Since the demonstration of both setups met Caracol's requirements, both software

packages will be configured for long-term tests, and eventually will be a permanent part of their studio installation.

“The question for us was, how can the engineers both listen to and meter the audio signals while not on site?” says Egea.

The solution was an infrastructure that allowed the mc<sup>2</sup> console core to supply its audio signals to a facility computer. “Audio signals were supplied to the streaming network via the RAVENNA card in the core and collected from the network on a PC using AoIP Stream Monitor or R?LAY VPB software. By accessing this computer via Teamviewer or Remote Desktop through a second NIC, Caracol engineers can now conveniently monitor the most important signals from home. This setup offers a very flexible monitoring situation and has simple, intuitive GUIs to quickly create a suitable monitoring overview.”

Lawo's solutions can not only broadcast world championships and other games remotely but are also ideally suited for customer-oriented services, according to Jesús Lozano, CEO of Lawo solutions partner Videoelec.

“The Corona pandemic has certainly pushed the advancement of remote infrastructures, but Lawo has placed much importance on developing products and solutions for remote purposes for years,” says Lozano. “Now we can use them not only for production but also, under adverse circumstances like the pandemic, for keeping project timetables and delivery schedules, and for enabling customers to remain on-air or in production.”

Camilo Peñuela, Sound Manager at Caracol TV, is very pleased with Lawo's response to their need. “With this solution we can save considerable costs — and we have a friendly and reliable remote tool to keep our sound under control at all times. Not only can we ensure our audio quality standards, we can access our audio network in seconds to check the status of any stream. This is just one more example of why Lawo is an excellent company to partner with.”

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