



APTN Incorporates GLIM to Shore Up Remote Capabilities

"Adopting GLIM into our infrastructure was an easy decision because it's built on the same Telestream Media Framework. Anything we can play in GLIM, we can process in Vantage."

– Dennis Rondeau, broadcast technologist at APTN



APTN, formerly referred to as Aboriginal Peoples Television Network, launched in 1999 as the first national Indigenous broadcaster in the world. Since then, the network has become a global leader in programming that celebrates the rich diversity of Indigenous Peoples across Turtle Island (Canada and the United States) and beyond. The network's programming is shared with over 10 million Canadian households in English, French and a variety of Indigenous languages, as well as on their Indigenous-focused streaming service, APTN lumi.

With such a large viewership comes a great deal of responsibility in terms of managing combinations of contribution circuits like Asynchronous Serial Interface or ASI, a method of carrying MPEG Transport Stream over 75-ohm copper coaxial cable or optical fibre, Fibre and satellite covering the far North. Over 80% of their content is original, and its rebroadcasting requires dubbing and subtitles for the programs in English, French and Indigenous languages.

The Challenge

When COVID-19 put the world on hold, over 75% of APTN's workforce were told to work from home; this included staff in the promotions and operations departments. To meet commitments and continue broadcasting, they had to copy files/materials onto their personal computers for review, causing a multitude of delays. The master files are quite large, which could take many hours to download, depending on Internet speed. If a smaller proxy was needed, that would create even more delays.

The promotions department screens movies, shows, and producer-provided video assets, in addition to creating shotlists of clips so editors can build promos. *"My job is video heavy and a significant chunk of each day is spent screening shows and approving promos,"* says Shelley Jesseau, manager of promotions at APTN. *"I don't have time for long video downloads that may fail or awkward workarounds."*

The Solution

The network turned to Telestream GLIM for instant remote access to the full resolution media needed for QC and screening. GLIM is a remote media player that is designed to play full resolution, mezzanine-grade media files from centralized storage over the Internet from a web browser.

APTN deployed a five-user GLIM license for a pool of 10 users in the promotions and operations departments, as well as the GLIM Server. The team can now review finished product and shotlist B-roll footage with speed and efficiency from anywhere. It also allows APTN staff to store their content and files on their local corporate network rather than copying them to local computers. This allows them to work remotely with less bandwidth while ensuring they maintain critical customer timelines.

APTN also currently uses Telestream Lightspeed Live Capture for ingest into their Vantage servers. Vantage is used to create assets for the APTN lumi streaming service. Vantage also creates IMF packages as the mezzanine format for APTN's digital archive. For local QC of media, APTN still uses the Telestream Switch player, but the operations department needed something that could allow QC of media on a remote basis, which is where GLIM came in.

GLIM is built upon the foundation of the Telestream Media Framework, which underpins many Telestream products used for media processing and QC (e.g., Vantage and Switch). The framework has been field tested in the most demanding broadcast use cases. Regardless of the deployment or product used, the Telestream Media Framework guarantees that the content produced will be of the same technical specs and quality every time.



As of this writing, the network has tentative plans to return to the office in fall 2022. But whether they make the move back or adopt a hybrid scenario, the APTN team is confident that the Telestream infrastructure in place will continue to support them.

To Learn More

To get more information about products and services mentioned, see:

- <https://www.telestream.net/glim/overview.htm>
- <https://www.apntv.ca>

