Aurora Integration with Vantage

Partner Solution

Tektronix®

Aurora file-based QC integrates with Telestream Vantage®

Vantage

Aurora QC workflow integration with Telestream Vantage

Save time and money by automating the quality control of your media files through Tektronix Aurora native integration in Telestream Vantage® workflows.

Overview of Solution

Aurora file-based QC adds significant value throughout the media workflow, saving money and time at ingest, in post-production, in archive, and post-transcoding before content is played out or distributed. Integrating Aurora within Telestream Vantage® workflows provides the media organization with the opportunity to optimize the efficiency of their operations, automating the processes around the QC analysis, and ensuring the quality of their media meets specified standards.

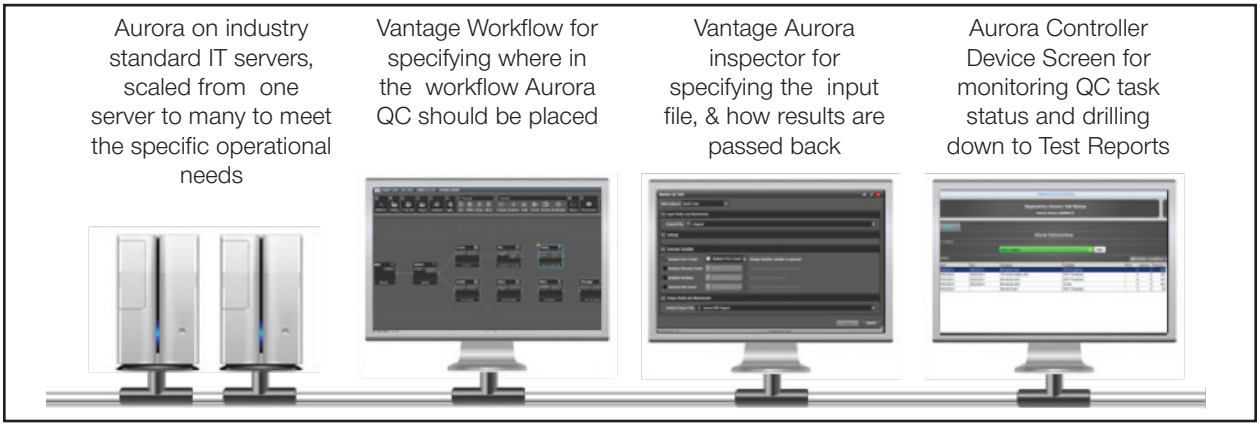
Aurora has a native integration with Vantage®, appearing as part of the system. Vantage can both instruct Aurora what tests to perform, and can automate actions based on Aurora QC test results. This is achieved by taking Aurora events and mapping them to Vantage variables, then designing workflows using the Vantage graphical tools that include decisions and actions based on the QC results. The full Aurora Test Report is also delivered to the Vantage® document management system so that it can be reviewed separately.

Telestream Vantage is a complete family of world-class video transcoding and workflow solutions – from single- server installations for automating transcoding, to very large, multi-server systems that produce and assemble millions of finished media packages. Vantage transcoding workflows make content production, multi-screen delivery, and device interoperability a hands-off process. Add automated decision making and enterprise-class system management to take your workflow to the next level.

Visual artifacts that can be detected by Aurora include Macro-block Noise/ Cloud, Up-conversion, Comb Artifacts, Field Order Swaps, Tape/Digital Hits, Perceptual & Film Artifacts, Black/Freeze Frames, Letter-boxing/Pillar-boxing, Color Bars, PSE/Flash Detection, and Cadence Change. Audio artifacts that can be tested include Silence, Drop-outs, Peaks (dBTP, PPM, dBFS), Average Levels (R128, ATSC, ARIB), Clipping, Snaps/Clicks/Pops, Test Tones, Phase Swaps and Hiss/Hum.

telestream

Solution Architecture and Workflow Overview



The problems Aurora QC and Vantage can tackle

With the ongoing migration towards file-based workflows as well as the increased adoption of multi-screen and Over-The-Top Media Services, the volume of file-based content continues to grow exponentially. Along with this surge of content comes the challenge of ensuring the quality and correctness of the media files so as to ensure subscribers receive the best Quality of Experience.

The consumer's perception of quality is a key factor in the differentiation between content providers. Ensuring and optimizing file-based content quality requires providers to have the ability to evaluate and manage media quality within internal networks and to accurately assess the impact their media content can have on other elements in the ecosystem. It is not just the audio, video and metadata that matter anymore; format and syntax are critical as well.

Throughout the video delivery chain, participants are upgrading their workflow to support all digital environments. But because more and more content is compressed and archived in one format and then repurposed to another format, archives are far from homogenous, and maintaining control over output presents a significant challenge.

How Aurora QC and Vantage integrate to help you

From within Vantage, an operator can easily drag and drop the Aurora component into a workflow, and the variables you want passed back from Aurora to Vantage, and how you would like the PDF copy of the Aurora report named for storage in the Vantage document store. The input to Aurora can be defined directly in Vantage using a Watch or Pipeline/Ingest action, as Aurora can QC both complete and growing files.

The workflow in the above diagram begins with a Vantage Watch action, configured to monitor a target location for incoming media. When the job starts, the Aurora action is executed and the media file passed to Aurora to perform a given QC test before transcoding the media, to determine if it meets the quality standards or requirement which is specified in the Aurora Test Plan.

While Aurora is completing the specified Template/Test Plan, result values from Aurora's report are assigned as Vantage variables, including Error, Warning and Information counts. When the QC job is complete, the PDF copy of the report is stored in the Vantage document store for simple access in the future. A Decision action is set in Vantage to monitor the variables from Aurora and use that information as a Vantage variable to branch the workflow in different paths, depending on the result.

By using the variables in the Decision stage of a Vantage workflow, files can easily be identified as not ready for transcoding and deployment to production, allowing actions such as movement to a quarantine folder for analysis and further action by an operator and/or an email notification using the Message action. If files are set as ready for downstream processing, a Flip or Deploy action can ensure that the file moves on and is ready for the next steps.

Summary

Automated QC allows you to make your QC staff more efficient by having them concentrate on the 5% of the "bad" files, rather than spending their time watching the 95% of "good" files. Automated Quality Control can scale with content growth, increase service quality, and get better leverage out of existing QC staff. Using automated file-based QC solutions can reduce your end-to-end file time, reduce the number of people in the workflow, and reduce churn by having your content accepted the first time.

About Tektronix and Aurora

For complete information and sales contacts, go to:
http://www.tek.com/file-based-quality-control-solutions

telestream

www.telestream.net | info@telestream.net | tel +1 530 470 1300