



Performing the art of multi camera streaming

The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland has recently integrated Panasonic AW-UE70 remote cameras, allowing them to film, record and live stream performances.

Client - Royal Conservatoire of Scotland

Location - Glasgow, Scotland

Products Supplied - AW-UE70, AW-HEA10W

Challenge

Limited ability to record and share performances to facilitate both internal and external events whilst reaching a wider audience.

Solution

The implementation of Panasonic AW-UE70 cameras and a AW-HEA10 remote camera system that supports iPad control by users with little and no training.

“ It was the whole integration, along with the hardware controllers that control the position of the cameras which really works. ”

Paul Barton Hodges,
Managing Director for Duet Media.



Royal Conservatoire
of Scotland

duetmedia



The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland started the 2017 academic year with the installation of a multi camera streaming system covering two of their main performance spaces, allowing them to film, record and live stream performances.

Founded in 1847, the RCS is situated in the centre of Glasgow, Scotland, providing specialised vocational education to professional standards across dance, drama, music, production and screen. With world-class facilities and unrivalled professional connections, the RCS is known as one of the most prestigious performing arts schools in the UK, hosting over 500 public performances each year.

Having been a customer of the Duet Group for the past 10 years, the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland approached them to design and install a multi camera streaming system into the two main performance spaces; the Stevenson Hall, which is the main performance hall and a smaller recital room called the Ledger Room.

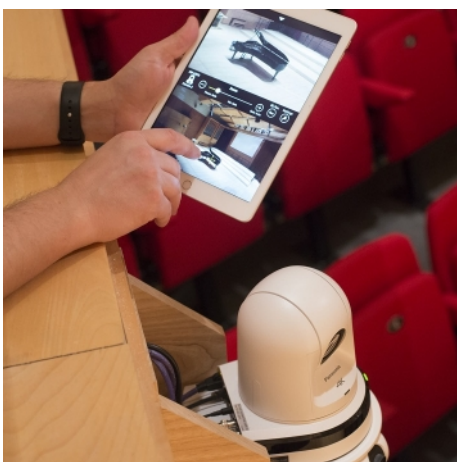
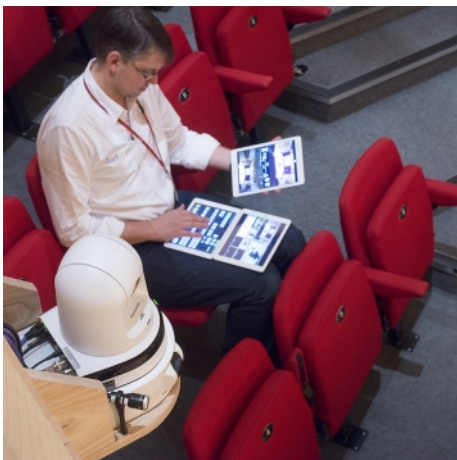
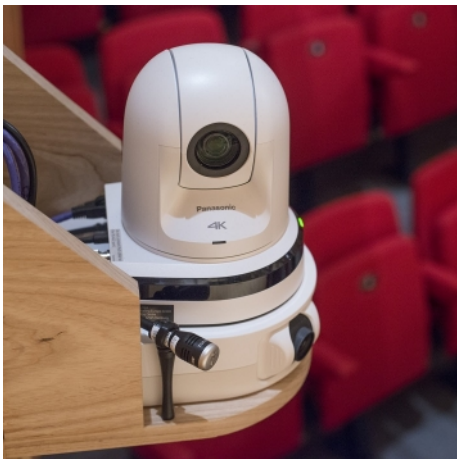
"It is the ease of use which drew me to use Panasonic systems."

"The brief was to develop a system allowing them to film, record and live stream performances that happen as part of the conservatoire programme of events, enabling them to reach a wider audience," explained Paul Barton Hodges, Managing Director at Duet Media. "But in addition to that, they wanted to be able to record and share performance classes, document examinations and facilitate many more internal events also."

For the internal usage of these systems, the Conservatoire was very keen for the installation to be operated by a member of the teaching faculty, or in some cases even students. The system put together and installed was based around Panasonic's AW-UE70 camera and the AW-HEA10 camera assist unit. With iPad control of the system, the installation ticked all the boxes for usability, especially for the likes of an untrained user, reducing the need for staff and further training.

"It is the ease of use which drew me towards Panasonic systems. Over the two venues, we have three permanently fixed cameras (UE70's), one in the centre at the back, and one on each side of the auditorium. We then have a fourth camera mounted on a tripod to be positioned on the stage, making it versatile dependant on how the stage is being used at that time," says Paul Barton Hodges

Each system can be controlled via a standard broadcast panel. However, the main hall also employs three iPads, each of which controls a different part of the system. They can be remotely operated via an iPad from teaching staff in the auditorium using a combination of the PTZ CTRL app and Strata control apps for the BMD ATEM series and Teradek wireless monitoring. This way, the operator can sit at a desk for examinations and remotely control the whole operation from there.





The system was provided to the RCS on a five year lease, specifically chosen to future proof the Conservatoire. When looking five years down the line, the installation of 4K equipment became a requirement, as more and more footage is being produced in 4K. With YouTube now supporting live streaming in 4K, the demand is increasing significantly.

"We actually went straight into 10 days of broadcasting..."

Having used a number of Panasonic PTZ cameras previously, Duet Media knew it was the solution they wanted, only this time with the addition of the HEA10. The symmetrical design of the UE70 and its discreteness when in continuous use, reduces distraction throughout the performances.

"Having seen a similar system in use at the Royal College of Music, the management and the artists were keen to, not emulate, but go along similar lines, and it was the whole integration, along with the hardware controllers that control the position of the cameras, which really works." explains Paul Barton Hodges.

With the system installed the last week of August 2017, the RCS had less than 24 hours after the last piece of equipment was plugged in before they went live on their first broadcast. Paul Barton Hodges expands, "so we actually went straight into 10 days of broadcasting for what was probably one of their most high profile, international events."

Professor Aaron Shorr, Head of Keyboard at the RCS expands, "The recent, Panasonic multiple camera installation at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland has transformed our learning and teaching provision. Within one day of installation, we were able to live stream the prestigious Scottish International Piano Competition, which takes place every three years at the RCS. The cameras and systems worked seamlessly, and we successfully trained and used the system to live stream over 33 hours of recitals from this prestigious, international piano competition."

The UE70 installation runs on its own closed network, allowing Duet Media to individually control the cameras from wherever they are based. Paul Barton Hodges adds, "This is a great way to support clients. The switcher I put in had eight Power over Ethernet+ (POE+) ports, and the rest were standard POE, enabling me to power the whole system off of one switch which was brilliant."

"This is the system that I long dreamed of for our Conservatoire."

With all equipment delivered to their offices in Kent via distributor Holdan, they were able to pre-build the whole system and construct all of the IP addressing in their offices. With the knowledge of having only a small installation window at the end of August, and having done all the pre-configuration in their Kent offices, everything went in and worked straight away. "The ease of the installation was seamless," elaborates Paul Barton Hodges.

"The true innovation of the system has been the capability to operate the entire system from iPads, freeing up the operator to actually sit in the audience to experience the concert as well as controlling the cameras and live recordings," explains Aaron Shorr. "This aspect of the installation is unique and allows true, one person operation, either from the hardware or from iPads inside the hall. Thank you Panasonic! This is the system that I long dreamed of for our Conservatoire."

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