

# Press Release

## OSPREY PROVIDES IP “HEART AND ARTERIES” FOR PLAYOUT ELEMENTS OF NEW BBC BROADCAST FACILITY

*- the largest technology migration project in broadcasting history*

**17<sup>th</sup> February 2004, Aylesbury, UK:** The Broadcast Centre, BBC Broadcast’s new headquarters, in the purpose built Media Village at White City, West London is based on an IP infrastructure. The playout elements of this are designed, installed and commissioned by UK-based systems integration specialist, Osprey Network & Communications. The initial installation – with broadcasts from BBC 3 and BBC 4 – will support over 1,000 users across 1,500 ports.

Osprey has provided network products from Foundry along with the technical expertise to build a solution that will create the “heart and arteries” for BBC Broadcast’s playout technical facilities for many years to come.

The £17.5 million overall contract awarded to a consortium led by TSL on behalf of BBC Broadcast, of which the network infrastructure from Osprey is a key element, represents the largest ever technology migration project in broadcasting history, fulfilling BBC Broadcast’s aim of creating a tapeless production and delivery infrastructure. Once the system is fully implemented, BBC Broadcast will be able to play out, present, manage and re-purpose rich media content for any platform and any broadcaster. All of BBC Broadcast’s material will be transmitted across the new network infrastructure and will be played out from servers.

Osprey’s work has included the deployment of over 1500 network ports on five Foundry switches connecting all playout aspects of the technical facility including automation, audio servers and video servers as well as graphics and routers. The services provided by Osprey extend to application consultancy to ensure interoperability of all of the vendor’s solutions across the network infrastructure, related to this contract.

Osprey’s extensive expertise in bridging the gap between the traditional broadcast environment and the new IP and file-based technologies was a significant factor in their selection for the contract.

**Justin Elkerton, Managing Director of Osprey Network and Communications said:** “The award of this contract reinforces our position as one of the leading Systems Integrators for the new breed of broadcast technologies. We are proud to have been chosen to deliver the solution that underpins the new era of digital broadcasting from TSL. This has been an exciting and challenging project for Osprey. I am delighted that we have had the opportunity to work on such a significant project which I am sure will come to be regarded as one of the major milestones in the history of broadcasting technology, setting the standard for other broadcasters to follow.”

### **About Osprey Network and Communications**

Osprey Network and Communications is a privately held systems integration company, specialising in providing services and products that bridge the traditional broadcast technologies with the new era of digital file based solutions. Formed in 1990 the company has focused its expertise in the broadcast and media sectors delivering services to some of the largest broadcast operations worldwide.

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