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## **NEW CONTRACTS**

### **Radio Riyadh Uses NETIA's Radio-Assist To Speed Turnaround**

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Radio Riyadh, Saudi Arabia's national radio station, has installed Radio-Assist to enable a tapeless workflow from acquisition of audio through to playout.

The digital audio software system, which was engineered and implemented by U.K. based Audix Broadcast Ltd and Saudi Arabia-based Jamal Jaroudi Group, centralizes production and broadcast tools for faster turnaround of digital media content and easier repurposing of existing media assets.

The NETIA system has been integrated with the Audix mixing desk and now provides enormous time savings with respect to working with digital audio material. Radio Riyadh can now assign multiple editors to work on content simultaneously, and the Radio-Assist database makes it easy for them to access and archive both new and existing media assets.

The Radio-Assist range of digital audio software programs covers the entire operation of a radio station. The NETIA software provides Radio Riyadh staff with simultaneous access to several products, so users can record, edit, or prepare a playlist within a single application. At the Riyadh facility, the central studio is equipped with Radio-Assist AirDDO custom control functionality while the secondary studio is equipped with AirCartstack. The production tools are available for staff use at dedicated workstations.

The whole system is based around a double server solution with a SAN dedicated to file storage. The mirroring between servers is controlled by NETIA's DBshare to provide a redundant solution. AirDDO functions as a stand-alone system to enhance playout security. If the entire network were to go down, the playout system would remain operational and playout would be unaffected in any way.

A third-party archiving system is attached to the production system, and exchanges between the two are achieved through AXML fields with proprietary data (copyright, user, associated data, etc.) encapsulated in the audio file. During backup within this new method of exchange, NETIA's Dispatcher converts and writes the data in the file prior to FTP transfer. Restoration takes place in reverse, with NETIA's Autofill reindexing the data present in the file into the production database.

"The Radio-Assist implementation at Radio Riyadh represents a significant improvement to the facility's production capabilities, and we're pleased to have worked with Audix Broadcast and the Jamal Jaroudi Group to make it a reality," said Abderrahmane Bessaih, director of operations at NETIA. "Radio Riyadh is taking a very forward-looking approach to the upgrade of its broadcast infrastructure, and this installation demonstrates the station's commitment to high-quality radio broadcasting."

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