What is Coming Next?

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The Rush to Data Storage - You Are Not Alone

• Everyone is heading in this direction
  - AM broadcasters
  - FM broadcasters
  - VHF broadcasters
  - UHF broadcasters
  - Cable broadcasters
  - Production houses
  - Post-production houses
  - Effects houses
  - Recording studios
  - And many, many more….
Digital Has Won

• Everything starts in analog
  - Our ears are analog
  - Out eyes are analog

• But digital versions of these signals are....
  - Easier to duplicate
    ▪ More precise in their duplication
  - Easier to distribute
    ▪ With no limit to the number of distribution points
  - Quality as good as analog, some might say “better”
    ▪ Delivered content can DEFINITELY be better quality
It Doesn’t Matter What Your Content Is

• Everything is data
• If you need better quality, use more data
• If you have wide bandwidth content, use more data
• If you have complex duplication and distribution, use more data
And Here’s How it Will Look – this is a Data Center
This is a TV Station
This is a Radio Station (maybe less racks)
Or maybe this is 10,000 racks in Antarctica? The cloud?
Do you really care where they are?
As long as you can put your signals in?
And get your signals out (with the best quality ever?)
The First Salvo is the Outside Compute Platform (OCP)

- An idea launched by Mark Zuckerberg and Facebook
  - “What if you didn’t need to use anything that came before?”
  - “What if you could design your requirements from the ground up?”
  - “What would they look like?”
The Original “Relay Rack”
The Original “Relay Rack”

• 1911
• Railroad track relays
• 10/32 screws (sometimes 10/24)
• 19” wide (sometimes 24”)
• We’ve been stuck ever since!
• Anything else was NON-STANDARD
Open Compute Rack V1.2
Open Compute v3

- Reuses the “v2” half-width motherboards
- Self-contained sled for Open Rack
- 3-across 2U form factor enables 80mm fans with 45 servers per rack
An OCP “Server”

- It contains
  - Some memory
  - Some processing
  - Some distribution
  - Some specialized hardware (you will have input)

- What if I need more memory? More processing?
  - You will use as many processors as you need to get the job done

- The only difference will be the software you use
  - Specialized software for audio and video recording, reproduction
Innovative Shared 12v DC power system

Alignment Pin catches between the busbar

Float +/- 4mm horizontal
Float +/- 3mm vertical
The Goals of OCP

- Resiliency not redundancy
- Minimize “critical points” in infrastructure
- Maximize compute power
- Minimize heat/Maximize cooling
- Maximize versatility
- Any software overlay
  - And an audio or video software package will be common
  - Even though the Data Industry is >100 times bigger than Broadcast
Inputs and Outputs

- You will feed signals in to this data center.
- You will take signals out of this data center.
- Signals will be fed to you transmitter sites and transmitted.
- Signals will be fed to your on-line sites and “transmitted”
  - They will be more error free, robust and higher quality than ever before.
  - Your customers will be happier with the quality and reliability
  - The most casual viewer/listener won’t even notice the change
How This Works

• Someone builds an OCP data center
• Some of these racks handle your signals
  – Which racks are yours?
    ▪ It doesn’t matter
  – How many racks will you require?
    ▪ It doesn’t matter
    ▪ Sometimes a lot of racks
    ▪ Sometimes a few racks
    ▪ You’ll get a bill for what you did use
How This Works (for Radio)

• You buy a “Radio Broadcast Software” package.
  – Or maybe you “rent” it or “lease” it.
  – Then you will automatically have improvements or updates…free!

• You send it to a server farm…
  – Or maybe that’s who you will rent it from.

• You rent the servers already.
  – You can’t repair them, hot-swap them or upgrade them
  – Maybe not ever allowed in the front door (story of an Uzi.)

• You control the software for anywhere.
  – You tell it what you want to find
How This Works (for Radio)

Music
There are already sources for ten of millions of music recordings
If the quality is not acceptable, you become a distributor
ID’s (you produced or you paid to have produced)

Spoken word
You buy boxes which record audio and send it to your software.
Box will display what music or audio comes before and after.
The software puts it all together as a program – based on your desire
Software is aware of legal requirements, ID’s, silence sensor etc.
Point to Your Broadcast Facility

• You can’t – it no longer exists
• You might not even know which data center you’re in
  – Maybe you’re in a bunch of data centers
• You send your signals in and they come out and on the air.
  – What else do you need to know?
• There’s a small local office for sales – and to be legal.
  – But most salespeople work out of their home
• You control all with a laptop, internet access and passwords