



#### **C4 relocates playout with TSL, Red Bee**



*Phillips: "One of the largest outsourced playout projects in recent times"*

TSL has won a major contract with Red Bee Media, which will see Channel 4's playout facility move from the broadcaster's current premises in Horseferry Road, London to Red Bee's Broadcast Centre in White City. The new system, designed in conjunction with Red Bee, will be built by TSL, and ready for transmission next summer.

David Phillips, CEO, TSL said: "This is one of the largest outsourced playout projects in recent times and we are delighted to be working with Red Bee Media again. It was a very competitive process won after a formal tender and certainly wasn't a sure thing for TSL. The fact we won proves our ability to put together the right technical solution at the right commercial terms."

TSL will pre-build and install a file-based facility which, claimed Phillips "will deliver significant improvements in the overall efficiency of the operations of Channel 4."

The move includes the transfer of the entire C4 Channel Operations Department with library, media management, QC, playout and transcoding relocating to the Broadcast Centre. C4's post production and graphics services will remain at Horseferry Road under the management of Red Bee Media.

"TSL's focus is on the playout systems and media and interactive services. We have to interface with coding and multiplexing and the general distribution system which is Red Bee's responsibility."

The new system will include four Omneon Spectrum media systems for playout with automation (Morpheus), routing (HD Cygnus) and master control (HD Masterpiece) supplied by Pro-Bel.

A Snell & Wilcox Quasar Ph.C will provide the broadcaster with a motion-compensated HDTV upconverter.

Axon Digital Design is supplying the modular infrastructure equipment (glue) for this project. The equipment is used throughout the main playout, back-up and linking facilities. Over 600 Synapse modules will be used including downconverters, crossconverters, aspect ratio converters, audio description processors, back-up switchers, logo inserters and Dolby E encoder and decoders.

TSL has invested in its business in recent years, doubling the capacity of its UK offices by adding a new base in Marlow and expanding into Dubai.

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