

TSL scores home run

by Adrian Pennington

Champagne is flowing on the TSL stand where the systems installer has announced the award of a major contract to design and build a large scale tapeless production project at Singapore-based ESPN Star Sports (ESS).

The project, codenamed 'Home Run' after the popular baseball term, will see ESS' existing tape-based sports and news production systems replaced with a new file-based facility. Home Run will allow ESS to maximise production efficiencies by allowing more versions of programmes to be produced for existing channels, new channels and other new technology revenue streams including mobile and broadband.

The contract follows a relationship that dates back to the broadcaster's transmission play-out revamp two years ago. Since completion of that project, TSL has continued to work with ESS as consultant to help define the specification of the new project, select appropriate technology, establish a realistic budget and advise on integration with the

other existing broadcast systems at ESS.

The new platform is based around an OmniBus Opus news and sports logging system which will integrate with the existing transmission systems and a new digital archive system. The near-line storage system comprises a 2,000-hour cache using Omneon's MediaGrid with four additional Omneon Spectrum media server clusters to provide around 50 video ports. The system will run at 50Mbps DVC Pro using Quick-Time throughout.

Live logging of feeds will be provided by Omnibus Opus and browse editing by Omnibus Head-Line featuring up to 8 channels of audio to streamline multi-language production. Browse technology will be provided by IPV using the latest generation Soyuz encoders and the new X Code module. Online editing and audio post production will be provided by 25 Apple Creative Studio systems comprising the latest version of Final Cut Pro running directly on the MediaGrid to offer large scale edit in place workflow.

10.249

IBC Daily

9th September 2006