



High-speed File Exchange and Automation for Complex Media Workflows

AT A GLANCE

Industry

Media & Entertainment

Products

Aspera Orchestrator
Aspera Faspex
Aspera Console
Aspera Shares
Aspera Connect
Aspera Proxy

Challenge

France Télévisions needed to replace their old, rigid ad-hoc system with a high-speed file transfer solution capable of handling diverse workflows across 30 regional sites as well as overseas.

Solution

A suite of Aspera software to streamline workflows and achieve fast, reliable delivery and exchange.

Results

- Modern, flexible platform with automated workflows and increased functionalities, plus enhanced end-user experience and short learning curve.
- More efficient collaboration between the teams with improved transfer times.

France Télévisions is a state-owned public broadcast network with headquarters in Paris. The five national channels France 2, France 3, France 4, France 5 and France Ô cover a large range of media content, including the latest news, movies, series and documentaries. With regional sites and media partners dispersed across the country and globally, France Télévisions needed an effective transfer mechanism to share content across widely distributed teams.

France Télévisions relies on Aspera's Emmy® award-winning FASP® high-speed file transfer technology to move media files through the supply chain, from ingest to distribution.


CHALLENGE

The growing demand for content contribution on a global scale drove France Télévisions' need for radically increased efficiencies, improved reliability, and a faster overall delivery pipeline.

France Télévisions operates 30 regional sites that are constantly exchanging a variety of digital content such as news, sports clips and movies across the country. News teams are spread across more than 150 sites, and each week more than 8,000 files are shared, averaging five terabytes of data. Each local office acts independently and creates its own content,

which is then shared among the other sites. Additionally, France Télévisions delivers content to various partners including film and audiovisual production houses and subsidiaries of its own company.

“To sum up this successful project, it was delivered on time, within budget, and with immediate results.”

 **Philippe Rouaud**
Director, Technical Engineering & Information Systems, France Télévisions

Previously, France Télévisions was using a rigid ad-hoc system based on FTP to move content between news teams and partners. Faced with an innumerable amount of different transfer processes, FTP was unable to maintain the transfer speeds and reliability that the broadcaster required. France Télévisions set out to build an automated workflow that would enable high-speed transfer and storage of content into designated internal folders with categories such as sports, news, etc. The solution would permit offices, journalists in the field, production houses and other third parties to upload, download and exchange files and directories of any size and store them in a central repository.

BENEFITS

Fast transfers

With Aspera, France Télévisions receives, processes, and distributes large media files around the world at maximum speed, regardless of file size, transfer distance or network conditions.

Reliability

Automatic resume for partial transfers and retry for failed transfers ensure media files are delivered dependably.

Scalability

Orchestrator scales fluidly and reliably to accommodate fluctuations in demand.

Strong security

Aspera's enterprise-grade security features built-in, SSH authentication, encryption in transit and at rest, and data integrity verification for each transmitted block, protecting valuable media assets throughout the transfer process.



ABOUT FRANCE TÉLÉVISIONS

France Télévisions is a public broadcast network with headquarters in Paris. The five national channels France 2, France 3, France 4, France 5 and France Ô cover a large range of media content: the latest news (JT/journal télévisé), movies, series and documentaries. The 30 regional sites of France 3 provide television tailored to the regional audience of the highest quality and 80% of the viewing public in France will watch a France Télévisions program during the week. Besides broadcasting, France Télévisions has enriched its product portfolio and programs by offering content via the internet on sites such as francetv info and francetv sport.

SOLUTION

To address a multitude of file transfer needs, France Télévisions selected a suite of software from Aspera, including Connect Server, Orchestrator, Faspex, Shares and Console.

The Aspera Connect Server provides fast and dependable exchange of files and directories across France over the WAN. Authorised users are now able to upload and download data of any size, at any time. The regional content is automatically stored on a centralised platform via Aspera Orchestrator, which automates the entire digital content supply chain. All files first run through a virus scanner check, and if an intrusion is detected the file is quarantined and administrators are alerted. Virus-free files are fetched from a centralised database categorised by author, editor or subject and routed through an embedded in-house metadata inspection tool that identifies the technical features of the content such as size and resolution. An xml-file is produced automatically and moved together with the media file into the internal directory according to predefined categories using Aspera Shares. In parallel to the main project, an automated publication and archiving process was successfully implemented.

“Thanks to the extensive library of plug-ins for Aspera Orchestrator, we can immediately interface with our existing systems.”

RESULTS

Faced with specific deadlines, France Télévisions was able to implement

Aspera's technology, train 50 key users, and connect 30 regional sites within the set time frame.

Aspera Orchestrator supports even the most complex, high-volume workflows, integrates seamlessly with third-party plug-ins, and ensures each processing step is accurately performed. With Orchestrator, files can be directed, processed and re-directed with easy-to-define rules based on France Télévisions' workflow.

“Thanks to the extensive library of plug-ins for Aspera Orchestrator, we can immediately interface with our existing systems, which is a considerable advantage over competing solutions,” said Hervé Friquet, Project Manager Engineering, Overseas Operations at France Télévisions.

Journalists in the field and administrators at each regional site are now able to submit ad-hoc content and deliver files to the headquarters in Paris or elsewhere around the world faster and more reliably than ever before using Aspera Faspex. Additionally, Aspera Cargo enables the automatic download of packages for fast and efficient collaboration between teams. The free downloadable Aspera Connect plug-in makes it easy for production houses, partners, and other 3rd parties without their own Aspera servers to share content via Shares or Faspex.

“Aspera software delivers high performance, flexibility, and the reliability we can depend on; plus, its ease of use is recognized by managers, operators and server admins throughout the organization,” said Philippe Rouaud, Director, Technical Engineering and Information Systems at France Télévisions. “To sum up this successful project, it was delivered on time, within budget, and with immediate results.”

About Aspera

Aspera, an IBM Company, is the creator of next-generation transport technologies that move the world's data at maximum speed regardless of file size, transfer distance and network conditions. Based on its patented, Emmy® award-winning FASP® protocol, Aspera software fully utilizes existing infrastructures to deliver the fastest, most predictable file-transfer experience. Aspera's core technology delivers unprecedented control over bandwidth, complete security and uncompromising reliability. Organizations across a variety of industries on six continents rely on Aspera software for the business-critical transport of their digital assets.

Learn more at www.asperasoft.com and follow us on Twitter @asperasoft for more information.

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