

Lima, OH, low-power group installs Media Fire

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If any customer can test the limits of multiple of station automation at the lowest price, it may well be a cluster of low-power network affiliates in Lima, Ohio (DMA 185).

Metro Video Productions operates WOHL-LP (Fox), WLMO-LP (CBS), WLQP-LP (ABC), MyNetwork 25 and WFND-LP Findlay, Ohio.

The station group is unusual in that it operates four network affiliates, all in the same facility within the same DMA.

"Being in a small market and having only low-power stations, we have limited staff and a limited budget but still need to produce the same high-quality television standards that viewers expect to see," said Metro Video Productions owner Greg Phipps.

"We needed a robust broadcast video server solution that can operate our stations, while providing automated satellite recording and integration with Pathfire," Phipps added.

"We looked at several server options but really like the integrated Media Fire master control automation server system from Digital Broadcast that handles automated recording, ingest segmenting, control of our routing system and traffic interface all on one platform," he continued.

The system has to operate four separate network channels in SD and can be upgraded to output an HD format that will feed multiple cable systems.

The build-out is part of a major equipment upgrade for the low-power TV group that also includes a new RF Central 2 GHz microwave ENG system for the live remote news van as part of the Sprint/Nextel BAS relocation.

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