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OB expansion in triplicate



SIVision in red: Extra width of new HD OB trucks helps give Red Bull Air Race its wings

by David Fox

Munich-based SIVision has the most expansive HD OB truck on show at IBC, with triple expanding sides making it 5.6m wide, giving room for three production desks in the main area, plus vision control, slow-motion and graphics areas, a separate MCR and an audio room.

The main and matching assist truck were ordered in January, with systems integration by VTS (for video and network) and Sono (for audio) in Munich, and delivered last month. They have just gained their wings on their initial productions for the Red Bull Air Race series in Budapest and Porto.

They are the first trucks to be fitted with Sony's new Class One BVM-L230 HD LCD monitors. The 26 cameras also came from Sony (including two HDC-3300 slo-mo cameras) with Canon lenses. Although SIVision Chief Executive Officer Imre Sereg had used Thomson cameras when he was at Alfacam, he picked Sony because he believes the new Sony cameras offer better quality. "Sony switches on, and it's there and it works."

The cameras and both trucks are completely fibre-based, with Lemo camera cables and Fischer Connectors providing the interconnections linking the vans, the stage boxes and flight cases. Some connections have up to 16 fibre inserts, plus power.

It has 512 x 512 and 128 x 128 routers from Harris, chosen because "they are very compact and feature direct fibre connections. It means one less connection, which is very important for HD." There is also a 192-channel Lawo audio console, eight EVS, and Riedel 256 x 256 intercoms.

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