

Studio Three upgrade at Television Centre, London

Studio Three vision control

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ATG Danmon worked in partnership with BBC Studios and Post Production to deliver a major upgrade of Studio Three at Television Centre in London. Studio Three was converted from standard definition to 1080 50p high definition, becoming the fifth permanent HD studio at Television Centre.

The project was comparable with the Studio Six upgrade which ATG Danmon completed at Television Centre in September 2010. A crucial element of both operations was the need to install, fully test and commission the system in August when the studio's activity was lighter than during the rest of the year. Work on the new infrastructure commenced 23 July 2011 and completed on schedule in early September.

The upgraded system was fully equipped for 3

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Control desk from front

gigabit/s HD-SDI operation, adds ATG Danmon Projects Manager Dave Whitaker. "The main vision mixer was equipped with fibre-optic feeds from Sony HDC 1500 cameras. Other infrastructure incorporated included a Snell Cygnus router, Crystal Vision signal converters and additional glue equipment. Several of the existing production control desks were modified to incorporate additional equipment panels. We also reworked some of the Custom Consoles LCD-panel monitor stacks."

With the completion of this refurbishment, BBC Studios and Post Production has five fully integrated HD studios at Television Centre. It can also deliver HD from all other studios using HD flyaway equipment, including a vision mixer, up and down conversion equipment, monitoring and a bespoke transportable bay which acts as the heart of any temporary upgrades.

"With BBC One HD and ITV HD now fully up and running, customer demand for HD production facilities is increasing," comments Craig White, BBC Studios and Post Production's Head of New Business and Entertainment. "The investment in 1080 50p for Studio Six last year and now Studio Three enables both to handle all current HD broadcast formats."

Studio Three is operated by BBC Studios and Post Production, a wholly-owned commercial subsidiary of the BBC.



