

Control room upgrade for BBC Scotland

ATG Danmon is one of the world's most successful providers of high-end reliable and easy-to-operate integrated systems for broadcasters and programme makers.

Active in Europe, Asia, Africa and the Middle East, ATG Danmon is part of the Dan Technologies Group which operates from offices in the United Kingdom, Germany, Denmark, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and Vietnam.



BBC Scotland headquarters at Pacific Quay on the River Clyde.

The project centred on the modernisation of a compact television gallery assigned to the production of bulletin-style news programmes.

"Careful co-ordination was vital to ensure the daily broadcast schedule could continue as normal," says ATG Danmon project manager Howard Dixon. "This was achieved by installing all the required new equipment in a temporary control room which could be fully configured and used for staff training before going live. Once that was fully operational, we decommissioned and emptied the legacy control room before moving the complete system in."

The switchover was achieved with complete success in little more than half a day. The infrastructure includes new VizRT Mosart control and playout automation, a large Adder Link Infinity KVM system, a Media Wall multiscreen display using Sony 55 inch 4K monitor screens, and J.L. Cooper audio fader control. ATG Danmon also designed and integrated a large Custom Consoles L-shaped control desk to fit the available space. This is configured for use by up to a five-strong team comprising news editor, teleprompter, producer, director and technical operator.

Based on the Custom Consoles Module-R Lite series, the desk incorporates a 2.23 metre wide audio control wing positioned at 90 degrees to the main section. This houses a Calrec Brio audio mixing console within easy reach of the technical operator.

"Module-R Lite and Media Wall were the logical choice as they provided all the features required within very compact front-to-back dimensions," comments ATG Danmon managing director Russell Peirson-Hagger. "Module-R and Module-R Lite gave us the freedom to match the precise requirements without incurring the cost and time issues associated with bespoke furniture.

Module-R Lite has the same work surface dimensions as the standard Module-R but a front to back depth of just 95 centimetres compared with 120 centimetres. This offers a significant advantage where space is an issue. The BCR desk is configured with 14 bays. Two are assigned to the news editing position, three shared between the teleprompter and producer, three to the director and six bays plus the right-hand desktop to the technical operator.

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