



CASE STUDY

The Louvre Museum Transforms Video Asset Management with CatDV

Opened in 1793, the Louvre is one of the world's largest and most famous museums. Live events hosted in the museum's primary auditorium are regularly captured on video. Implementing the CatDV Asset Management Platform has helped the museum simplify search and retrieval of those video assets while enabling technical staff to preserve an existing media workflow and maintain tight security.

LOUVRE

FEATURED PRODUCTS



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Technical Manager, The Louvre



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LOUVRE

SOLUTION OVERVIEW

- CatDV Asset Management Platform

KEY BENEFITS

- **Simplified search and retrieval** of video assets on the museum's SAN.
- **Streamlined migration**, saving weeks of work.
- **Preserved the existing media workflow**, rather than being forced into a new way of working.
- **Maintained tight security** with integration of a MySQL database.

Located on the historic site of a former fortress and palace, the Louvre is a central landmark of Paris. In operation for centuries, the museum today holds more than 380,000 pieces of art and regularly displays 35,000 of them in galleries that cover 15 acres. With more than 10 million visitors each year, the Louvre is the most visited museum in the world.

The Louvre hosts a variety of conferences, symposia, and live musical performances each year in its main auditorium. Those events are recorded on video, and the footage becomes a valuable historical record for the museum and students.

The museum had used Apple Final Cut Server, a back-end server-based solution, for managing Final Cut files. But that solution could no longer meet the museum's needs. The Louvre's technical staff required a cost-effective, proven asset management system that would interface perfectly with leading video editing software, including Final Cut Pro. At the same time, a

new asset management system had to operate across physically separate networks.

TRANSFORMING MEDIA ASSET MANAGEMENT WITH CATDV

After considering its options, the Louvre selected the CatDV Asset Management Platform to transform their media asset management within the museum. The technical staff found that CatDV could integrate with Final Cut Pro and other editing software, and it could meet the requirement of operating across networks.

With CatDV, video from live museum events is captured and transcoded using the CatDV Worker automation engine and then ingested into the asset management system. Louvre librarians and editors in charge of asset management can access and log media directly using the CatDV Web Client.

SIMPLIFYING SEARCH AND RETRIEVAL

CatDV makes it easier for users to find and retrieve what they need in the large volume of

assets. Samuel Brosset, technical manager at the Louvre, noted, "CatDV's Worker Node provides powerful tools that organize media on our SAN, while the CatDV Web Client provides access to the media throughout the Louvre, making search and retrieval very simple."

The Louvre's video projects have specific file-naming and folder structures that need to be maintained on the SAN. Fortunately, the museum was able to maintain those structures during the migration to CatDV. Ensuring the right media was stored in the right location was a key ingredient in the project's success.

STREAMLINING MIGRATION, PRESERVING THE EXISTING WORKFLOW

"The switch from our Final Cut Server was seamless," says Brosset. "The migration tool meant that all our existing assets and logging were maintained, saving us weeks of work."

Outside technical support further streamlined the move to the new solution. "The support and expertise we've received from our local partner, DID Technology, and from the makers of CatDV, have been par excellence," says Brosset.

As the designer of the media workflow at the Louvre, Brosset was also impressed that CatDV

could easily adapt to support the museum's preferred workflow. Unlike other solutions, it did not impose a particular way of working on the team.

MAINTAINING TIGHT SECURITY

Security of assets was a critical consideration in selecting a new asset management solution. The Louvre needs to ensure that assets are only available to authorized personnel. CatDV offers flexible security configuration options through seamless integration of CatDV with MySQL database.

LOOKING FORWARD WITH CATDV

CatDV has become an indispensable tool for the Louvre's auditorium video projects. Beyond transcoding, ingesting, and organizing assets, CatDV is also used daily to optimize the recycling and reuse of those assets in a speedy media review and approval circuit.

Meanwhile, Brosset continues to explore new ways to capitalize on the solution. CatDV's continual evolution and update program have allowed Brosset to plan integration of more new features, such as LTO tape archiving, into the workflow.

CatDV enabled the museum to preserve its existing workflow instead of imposing a particular way of working.



ABOUT THE LOUVRE

The Louvre is one of the world's largest and most famous museums. Centrally located in Paris, it is typically visited by more than 10 million people every year. The museum's collections, which are displayed in more than 650,000 square feet of gallery space, include iconic works that span objects from antiquities to paintings, sculptures, prints, and drawings from the modern era.

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