# ARRI Media, Munich, Germany



# At a glance The company

ARRI Media is a leading European broadcast production service provider in the fields of film post production, film co-production and international sales.

ARRI Media is part of the ARRI Group, which was established in 1917. It is one of the Group's five business units, which also include Camera Systems, Lighting, Rental and Medical. ARRI is a global company within the motion picture media industry with around 1,500 employees worldwide. The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences has recognized ARRI engineers and their contributions to the industry with 19 Scientific and Technical Awards. Based in Munich with offices across Germany, international award-winning ARRI Media possesses Germany's largest post production facility and provides production services to national and international film, broadcast TV and digital media production companies.

In many respects, ARRI Media is a pioneer in the provision of creative and technical services to the international film and TV industries. From pre-production and production to post production and even distribution, the company sets the benchmark in service provision – quite literally from script to screen.



# The challenge

Throughout Germany, Europe and anywhere worldwide, ARRI Media supports customers in ways that clearly differentiate it from rivals. ARRI Media's history is synonymous with the 'one-stop shop' concept.

Bayern Munich on a soccer pitch, Sebastian Vettel on the race track, Roger Federer on a tennis court – players at the top of their game face the same challenge the world over: to keep evolving and growing to stay ahead of their rivals. In order for ARRI Media to maintain its position as service provider of choice to many of the leading content creators in the international broadcast industry, it is vitally important for it to keep growing and adapting to its customers' diverse needs.

"As a full post production service provider with the concept of a one stop shop, it is vitally important for ARRI Media to use reliable, endurable, state-of-the-art technology to meet the high expectations of our customers," points out Günther Bornkessel, Head of Engineering & Quality Control at ARRI Media. "Our work has been and always will be dedicated to a perfect delivery with highest quality standards."

That is why ARRI Media has been working closely with Rohde & Schwarz for the past thirteen years. It has integrated Rohde & Schwarz production tools throughout its operations and is frequently one of the first to adopt new Rohde & Schwarz products and systems when they become available. The two companies have developed a supportive and close working relationship. "Technical support is of the utmost importance to us," explains Bornkessel. "As a full-service provider, we face a huge number of different tasks. Our technicians here at ARRI Media describe it more as a partnership, with both sides benefiting from each other's experiences and operations."





**R&S®CLIPSTER** 

# Rohde&Schwarz – top technology over many years

Back in 2004, the first of many Rohde & Schwarz post production tools that ARRI Media purchased was R&S°CLIPSTER. The workstation is located at the heart of ARRI Media's post production workflows, predominantly at the mastering stage. R&S°CLIPSTER is a complete hardware and software turnkey finishing system that provides users with a robust toolset to tackle any challenge and enhance the post production of film and broadcast projects.

R&S<sup>®</sup>CLIPSTER is suitable for a large variety of post production steps, from capturing to mastering in several digital distribution formats. It meets the challenges of the future today, supporting digital deliverables, the creation of mezzanine formats such as Interoperable Master Format (IMF), AS-02 and AS-11 packages, DCI cinema projects (including 3D), as well as the conforming and editing of uncompressed 4K data in real time. Since the workstation is capable of supporting UHD and HD workflows in HDR, ARRI Media is effectively future proofing its operations. "Here we mainly use R&S®CLIPSTER for file conversion workflows, including DCP/IMF mastering and versioning," comments Günther Bornkessel. "As the 4K market evolves, R&S®CLIPSTER's 4K QC engine is becoming progressively more important to us. Recently, we have started using R&S®CLIPSTER in our QC operations where we need to verify VOD deliveries by playing back high resolution and high data rate files.

"We use R&S<sup>®</sup>CLIPSTER because it is the most reliable system with the best performance, best flexibility and best handling," states Bornkessel.



### R&S<sup>®</sup>SpycerBox

In the post production and broadcast studio business, two things count when it comes to storage: speed and reliability. The shared storage solution from Rohde&Schwarz allows users to save valuable resources and spend their time on what's important. It removes bottlenecks in workflows because it eliminates the usual infrastructure problems. It also offers extreme performance and speed, up to UHD, 4K and 8K. On top of that, the systems are extremely versatile in terms of size, capacity, scalability and speed. ARRI Media started using R&S<sup>®</sup>SpycerBox in mid-2016. It is mainly used as a high-performance SAN for 4K and UHD projects (mostly with RAW files or PR4444), for restoration (HS-Art Diamant), color grading (Resolve) and mastering (R&S<sup>®</sup>CLIPSTER 5 and 6).

"Storage speed is critical here at ARRI Media since we mostly work with RAW data," clarifies Günther Bornkessel. "Automatic indexing of the files and the ability to avoid time-consuming defragmentation or formatting is one of the most important aspects and key features that helps maximize our productive time. R&S®SpycerBox's low maintenance requirement is another great aspect for us."





R&S<sup>®</sup>SpycerBox

# **R&S®VENICE**

R&S<sup>®</sup>VENICE is a future-ready video server for highly optimized file-based TV production workflows up to 4K. R&S<sup>®</sup>VENICE manages classic video server tasks such as 4K-HD-SDI ingest and studio playout combined with intelligent file-based features such as file ingest, transforming and media transfer operations. It is ideal for facilitating content ingest and distribution as well as studio production.

ARRI Media started using R&S®VENICE in August 2014 and it has since been implemented in its QC&I/O departments. "Two key features and functions attracted us the most to R&S®VENICE: The ability to perform I/O operations with up to four channels at the same time, independently of each other, and the ability to enable content transcoding with the easy-to-use R&S®VENICE UI," says Günther Bornkessel. "Our R&S®VENICE server is mostly used to capture tapebased video formats in real time," he continues. "As a post production company with an archive full of tapes, it is very important for our operators and our general production workflow to react quickly to the demand to ingest tapes.

"For the different needs in our workflow, it is key that R&S®VENICE can ingest virtually all types of file-based media. With an intuitive user interface and strong backing from Rohde&Schwarz, R&S®VENICE offers our staff great support in I/O operations."

ARRI Media also uses R&S<sup>®</sup>VENICE in its QC operations to view and check completed master files before handing them over to customers or delivering to broadcast stations worldwide.

"Over a period of 13 years, Rohde & Schwarz has become our trusted broadcast media technology partner, developing production tools that make a real difference in our business operations. This period has seen ARRI Media grow and evolve – Rohde & Schwarz has contributed to our success and we look forward to this progressive relationship continuing into the future."



Günther Bornkessel, Head of Engineering & Quality Control at ARRI Media.

#### Service that adds value

- Worldwide
- Local and perso
- Customized and flexible
- Uncompromising quality
- Long-term dependability

#### About Rohde & Schwarz

The Rohde&Schwarz electronics group offers innovative solutions in the following business fields: test and measurement, broadcast and media, secure communications, cybersecurity, monitoring and network testing. Founded more than 80 years ago, the independent company which is headquartered in Munich, Germany, has an extensive sales and service network with locations in more than 70 countries.

#### Sustainable product design

- I Environmental compatibility and eco-footprint
- I Energy efficiency and low emissions
- Longevity and optimized total cost of ownership



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