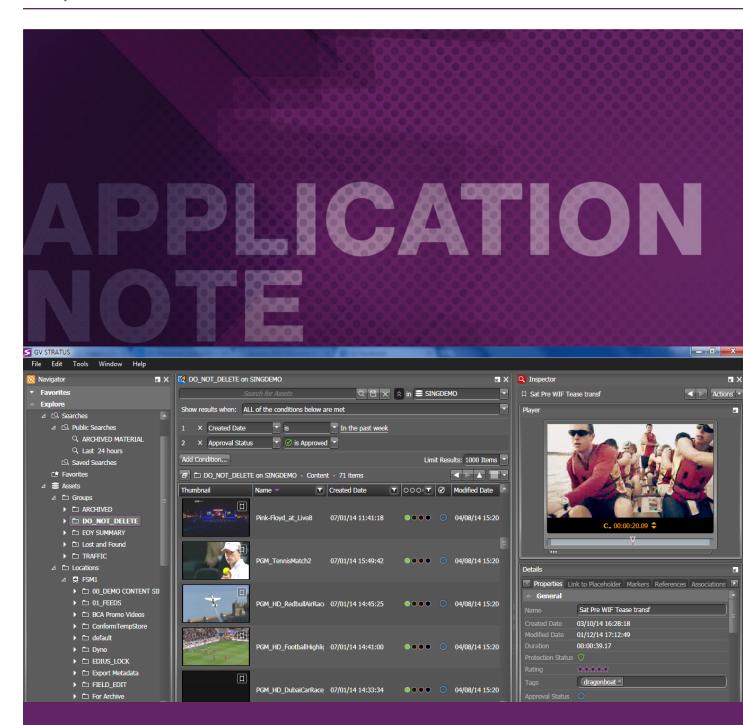


Importing Media from Harmonic Servers to GV STRATUS/K2 Systems

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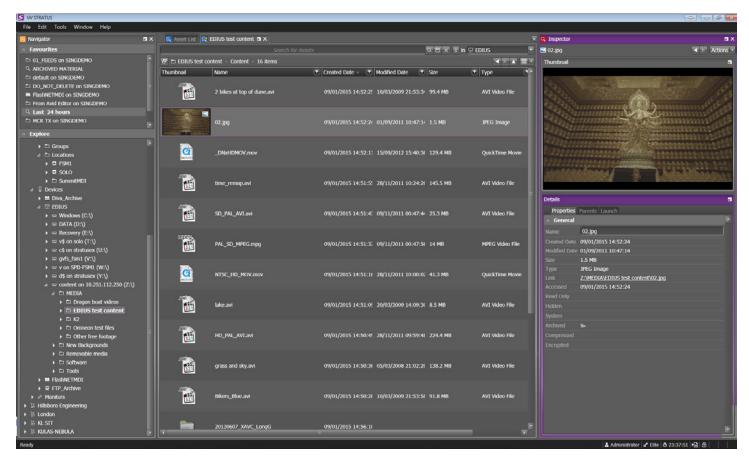
Introduction

GV STRATUS, from Grass Valley, a Belden brand, is a full set of production tools in one application — designed for simplicity, efficiency and speed. Its user interface provides the ability to review the contents and perform searches on any Windows OS drive that is mapped onto the physical workstation where it is running.

Among other benefits, this allows users to navigate to third-party storage devices or video servers, and directly import files into the GV STRATUS/K2 environment, provided those files are compatible for native import (typically wrapped as MXF OP1a, GXF or self-contained QuickTime movies). Please refer to "About file interchange mechanisms on K2 systems" in the GV STRATUS Topic Library for the full range of supported formats, file types and wrappers.

GV STRATUS, in combination with the Grass Valley K2 media platform, incorporates an open file system and a number of services and features to make it fast and easy to share content with standard storage devices or with other systems across networks.

This Application Note focuses on how this process allows direct import of MXF OP1a wrapped files from Harmonic servers and storage. Although care has been taken to test a range of formats from various models of Harmonic servers, certain video formats or server types may not be compatible. Note that all media files used on our tests were fully closed, completed (i.e., not growing) files.

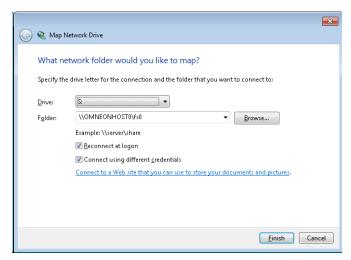


GV STRATUS application displaying contents of a mapped drive.

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Workflow

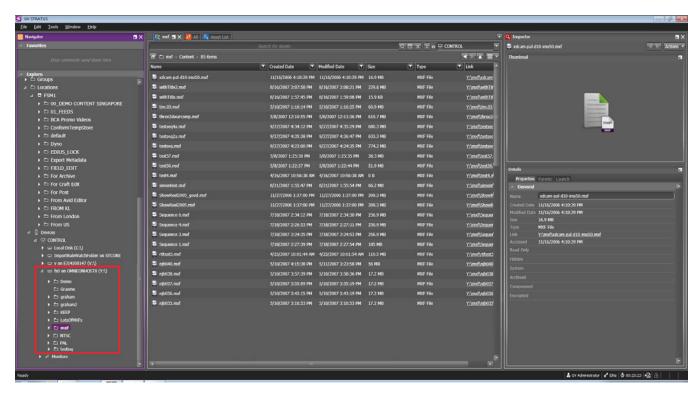
No configuration steps are required for this operation. The one prerequisite is that the login credentials used to log on to the GV STRATUS client allow writing to the K2 media drive, as well as to the GV STRATUS destination bin(s). Typically, this user needs to be part of the GV STRATUS domain or workgroup, and have write access to the K2 destination bin.



Before you log on to GV STRATUS, be sure that the Harmonic server/ storage is mapped as a shared drive on the client PC, at Windows level.

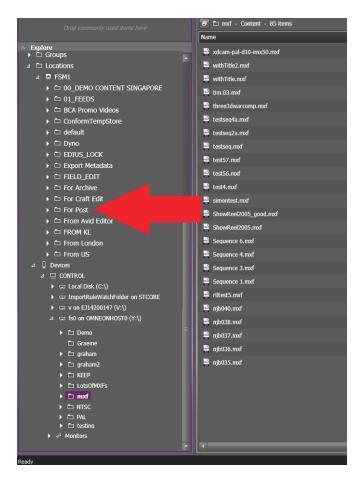
Mapping a shared drive on Windows.

Now launch and log on to the GV STRATUS client and navigate to the [Devices] tab on the Explorer list (left-hand side). If the Harmonic drive was mapped successfully, you will be able to see its folder tree and be able to navigate its contents.



GV STRATUS client with a mapped drive on Harmonic MediaPort server.

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Locate the MXF OP1a file(s) that you wish to transfer from the Harmonic server to GV STRATUS/K2. Then simply drag and drop the file(s) to the desired destination K2 bin.

If the file wrapper is natively supported, you will see a "+" symbol that allows you to complete the drag and drop operation. Otherwise, you will get a "forbidden" icon and will not be able to drop on the destination K2 bin within GV STRATUS.

Once the transfer request is accepted, you can monitor it using the GV STRATUS job monitor:



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The media file will be imported via FTP protocol, hence it is strongly recommended that the GV STRATUS workstation has a dedicated FTP/Media network for best speed and performance. Completion and speed of the transfer will therefore depend very much on the machine's specification, network configuration and network traffic.

Transfers via this means of connectivity adhere to the "non real-time" quality of service (QOS) classifications at the K2/SNFS file system level. This level of QOS management allocates system bandwidth which is unreserved/unused by the record ports, playout ports and edit clients for managed or unmanaged file-based transfers via FTP (file transfer protocol).

If the clip imports successfully, it will be available to play in high resolution as a growing file (before the clip import completed). Additionally, GV STRATUS will create a proxy (low-resolution) copy which will be available to play on low-resolution clients within seconds of the high-resolution file arriving on the K2 storage. From here, the media is available to use with all of the tools and workflows provided by GV STRATUS, such as viewing, adding metadata, storyboard editing, high-resolution editing, playout, etc.

The media file is imported in its native resolution and frame rate. If transcoding is required, an import rule with automatic transcode can be set up in GV STRATUS. Please consult the GV STRATUS Topic Library for information on how to set up and deploy import/transcode rules. Equally, if the original files are provided as QuickTime reference files, it is possible to re-wrap them using a third-party tool, also using a GV STRATUS import rule.

File Compatibility

Grass Valley has tested this import workflow with MXF OP1a files in the K2 system — please consult your Grass Valley representative for a range of video formats originated from various Harmonic servers. This, however, cannot guarantee that any and all files from a Harmonic server will successfully be imported. Further testing may be required for specific file specifications, video formats and server models.

Tested Harmonic Servers and Storage:

- Spectrum MediaPort
- Spectrum MediaDirector
- · Harmonic MediaGrid

Tested Video Formats:

MXF OP1A files (with 4, 8 and 16 channels of audio, ancillary and timecode track), within the range of SD and HD compression formats supported by K2 as specified in the K2 data sheet and product specifications. Note that certain codecs require additional licenses within more information.

SD DVCPRO 25 PAL	576i 25 Hz
SD DVCPRO 50 PAL	576i 25 Hz
MPEG-2 PAL	576i 25 Hz
• HD MPEG-2	1080i 25 Hz
• HD MPEG-2	720p 50 Hz
HD MPEG XDCAM HD50	1080i 25 Hz
AVC-Intra 100	1080i 25 Hz
AVC-Intra 100	720p 50 Hz
 Avid DNxHD120 	1080i 25 Hz
HD MPEG-2	720p 59.94 Hz

• HD MPEG-2

Summary

GV STRATUS supports a diversity of media transfer workflows, with manual and automated choices (via workflow rules). Combined with the K2 system's broad support for mainstream file formats and networked environments with shared access to content, this makes GV STRATUS a versatile and efficient platform for broadcast applications integrated across the nonlinear media production chain. Specifically, it facilitates the import of media files from Harmonic servers and storage for production requirements within the GV STRATUS environment.

1080i 29.97 Hz Drop frame

References

- GV STRATUS Topic Library
- · K2 Systems datasheet



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