

Telecinco [Spain]



Production and master control

Telecinco started broadcasting in April 1990. In the meantime the company has grown to be one of the most important broadcasters in Spain, employing 1,200 people and with 15 studios in Madrid alone. 85% of its programming is produced in-house and the majority of this is fiction series. Telecinco also has its own News Agency based in Madrid. Memorable programs include "Big Brother" and "Who wants to be a millionaire?"

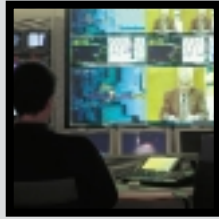
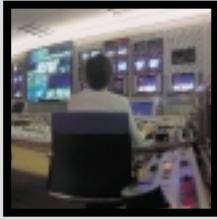
Telecinco began its transition to digital about 3 years ago and part of this transition involved the re-building of the studio control rooms from scratch. "We wanted to give the control rooms a new look and not just a technological upgrade," says Luis M. Gonzalez, Engineering Department's New Project Manager. "At the same time we also wanted to improve the working conditions for our operators and maintenance department."

Luis M. Gonzalez continues: "For Telecinco, Barco's iStudio fulfilled these needs. It is a flexible system and it represents today's most integrated monitoring solution for broadcast television. It gives our control rooms the new look we were looking for. It is a perfect replacer for the shelves with rows and rows of CRT monitors. iStudio was chosen after studying and comparing similar systems available in the market."

Before Telecinco implemented the iStudio solution, its program directors and operators had to adapt to what was available in the control room, being a fixed number and layout of CRT monitors. With iStudio, it's the other way around. iStudio adapts to the directors' and operators' needs.

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In total, Telecinco is looking to equip a total of 8 control rooms of which 5 studios, 1 virtual control room, 1 Master Control Room and 1 Network Operations Center with Barco's iStudio.



High Efficiency

The maintenance staff also benefits in various ways. They do not have to colormatch 30 monitors per control room. Other benefits include reduced power consumption and reduced air conditioning needs. Telecinco has equipped three control rooms with Barco's iStudio to date and they are working on converting the rest.

Once seen and experienced iStudio, directors and operators didn't want to go back to the old system. Each director has his or her layouts stored and can recall any layout instantly, optimising the use of the screen to specific needs.

Various Sources

"As our broadcast facilities grow and become more complex we have to be able to monitor more and more signals from a variety of sources. From satellite feeds to digital archive play out, from computer data screens to internet connections. During a typical program recording we can have any of the above mentioned signals along with cameras, VTRs, special effects and graphics," says Luis M. Gonzalez.

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