VBrick EtherneTV
Media Distribution System

MPEG-1, 2 & 4

VBrick EtherneTV-NXG1 Video on Demand Release Notes Version 2.0.0

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Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide release notes for the EtherneTV-NXG1 VOD server. It contains:

- Overview
- Compatibility guidelines
- Features
- Caveats

Any information contained within this document is to be considered VBrick Systems customer confidential and should not be reproduced nor distributed to non-VBrick Systems customers.

Overview

The EtherneTV-NXG1 Video on Demand system supports live-stream and stored file access, providing a single portal for unified access. This state-of-the art deployment supports many advanced features, including scheduled playback, Live feed ingestion, true Video-On-Demand and more.

Compatibility

This release is compatible with:

- VBrick 1000 and 3000 series of MPEG-1 Encoders (Release 2.4.0 and higher).
- VBrick 4000 and 6000 series of MPEG-2 and MPEG-4 Encoders (Release 2.1.0 and higher). MPEG-4 is supported with release 3.0.1a and higher.
- EtherneTV-MCS release 1.0.0
- Release is based upon redhat V8.0 and XMP 7.0.1, and the installation script contained in vbrick_kasenna_dell-7500-0119-0002.tar

Features

This platform delivers both live and stored file streaming. The EtherneTV-MCS control server is required for operation. This access interface will provide:

- Watch TV - Provides access to live VBrick Streams
- Video-On-Demand - Provides access to stored VOD files
- World Wide Web - Provides access to the Internet
- Features/Options - Provides access to the Administrative VOD options. The default login is:
  - User name: mbase
  - Password: mbase-admin

Access to the EtherneTV-NXG1 VOD server is accomplished by pointing your web browser (such as Internet Explorer) to the location of the EtherneTV-MCS control server:

http://MCSControlServer

Additional instructions are available in the Quick Start section of the EtherneTV-NXG1 Quick Start Guide.

Caveats

Release 2.0.0

WARNING: Ingested files are stored in the root area of the EtherneTV-NXG1 Video-On-Demand server. If this area becomes filled, it can overwrite and corrupt system files causing a catastrophic failure. Please monitor the amount of disk space remaining at all times and frequently remove unnecessary files.

Adding content to the server

1. Spaces and quotes (both ‘ and “) do may cause system instability problems. All spaces and quotes must be removed from MPEG file names before they are transferred to the EtherneTV VOD NXG . Also, do not use spaces or quotes in the video name field of newly added video content.
2. Content can be added to the server by recording a stream directly to the server, by ingesting a pre-recorded file into the server, or by recording a stream from the EtherneTV-STB. Recording an MPEG-4 stream directly to the server is not supported at this time.
3. Since recording of MPEG-4 streams directly to the server is not supported at this time, VBrick MPEG-4 streams should be recorded using VBrick StreamPlayerPlus or EtherneTV-STB and then FTP’d so that they can be ingested into the EtherneTV-NXG1 server. The MCS also supports MPEG-1, 2, and 4 recording.
4. To ingest a pre-recorded MPEG-1, 2 or 4 file the asset must first be placed onto the server through FTP. All MPEG files should be removed from the FTP staging area after they are ingested to prevent the staging area from becoming full. If the staging area becomes full, the EtherneTV-NXG1 server will catastrophically fail. As an alternative to FTP, the asset can also be ingested directly from a remote directory other than one on the server using Samba. VBrick recommends using the Samba Application rather than using FTP to eliminates the risk of filling the staging area. Please refer to the application note at http://www.vbrick.com/support/faq.asp
5. All assets that are installed into the server should have backup copies available in the event of disk corruption. This will allow for an easy restoration of the system.
6. The number of simultaneous records from the EtherneTV-STB should be limited. When more than 4 simultaneous records resulting in large files are performed, some ingestions may fail.

General notes

1. In order to view an MPEG-2 multicast file from the EtherneTV Video on Demand server, using a VBrick MPEG2 6200, packet ordering must be enabled. Packet ordering is set in the VBrick in Configuration: Decoder – Network settings.
2. Core dumps may occur when changing the system name of the EtherneTV-NXG1 server. It is recommended that these files be removed from the server. The core files are located in / or a subdirectory under /usr/mbase/coredir. These files will be automatically deleted if they are present for more than 1 week.
3. In order for the time to appear correctly in the EtherneTV-MCS user interface, it may be necessary to set the time zone (depending on the installation location). Directions for changing the time zone are in the Quick Start section of the EtherneTV-NXG1users guide.
4. EtherneTV-NXG1 server multicast port numbering starts at 5000. VBrick Multicast port numbering ranges start from 1040 to 65535, and the default is 4444. The VBrick default

multicast port number should be changed to a value of 5000 or larger if the VBrick encoders and decoders are being used as a source (record) or destination (playback) by the EtherneTV-NXG1 server.

5. For MPEG-1 recordings, the audio doesn't work for EtherneTV-NXG1 server playback if the file was recorded using VBrick -xxx0 hardware encoders with the audio is set to Mono (Left to Stereo). All other VBrick encoder Audio modes work.
6. Spaces and quotes (both ‘ and “) do not work. All spaces and quotes must be removed from MPEG file names before they are transferred to the EtherneTV-NXG1.
7. The Client Test Tool does not work correctly on Linux. It displays the connection to the client of the active file being played, but disconnects during the ping test.
8. A user must close the browser after logging out from the EtherneTV-NXG1 server. The A4 Authorization check does not succeed when a user logs out and logs back in as a different user within the same browser session.
9. The system may not stream up to the full 90Mbps when the content being streamed is located on external drives.
10. When external storage is configured, content will be ingested onto the external storage until it is full before content is ingested onto internal storage.
11. On systems configured with external storage, attempts to record files larger than 2 Gigabytes may fail when there is more than 2 Gigabytes of space available on one of the filesystems.
12. If the mbsnmp service is turned on, core files may appear in the root directory. Turn off mbsnmp to avoid this.

Software Version 7.01

1. For the MediaBase GUI in Release 7.01, in order to use the graphical tools for monitoring the CPU, storage, etc., it is necessary to install the latest Java plugin for your browser, Java 2 Runtime Environment, SE v1.4.2_01. This can be downloaded from <http://www.java.com/en/index.jsp>.
2. The EtherneTV-NXG1 doesn't support stream rates less than 64Kbps.
3. For the StreamPlayer client to work properly, the client PC cannot have the Cisco VPN enabled.
4. On the Monitor Service Status screen, it is normal for the IP Multicast Routing Daemon "LED" to show up as red.

If you have any questions regarding installation or operation, please contact your authorized VBrick reseller from whom you have purchased this product. You can also obtain on-line support for EtherneTV-NXG1 FAQs at:

http://www.vbrick.com/support/faq.asp

Or visit our technical support page at:

http://www.vbrick.com/support/technical_support.asp