



Remote commentary on Le Mans from another race track

In June 2019, the racing track Fällfors Drive Center Arena, 41 kilometers Northwest of Skellefteå in north of Sweden, had its inauguration. NEP Sweden hosted the broadcasts from Porsche Carrera Cup Scandinavia together with NENT Group and Porsche Sweden. Janne Blomqvist, famous Swedish motorsport commentator, got the assignment as host for the opening of the new Drive Center Arena.

During that same weekend, the 87th running of the historic and well-known auto racing event 24 Heures du Mans began in France. Blomqvist also got the privilege to do the commentary during parts of that race for NENT Group but couldn't attend both the inauguration event at Fällfors and the Le Mans. The commentators position would be placed in Stockholm, 620 kilometers away from Fällfors.

Short facts

Used equipment: 2 pcs VideoXLink X2

Client: NEP Sweden/NENT Group

Date: July 2019

Ultra-low latency - the key to success

Because of the presence of NEP Sweden Media Hub in Stockholm, NEP Sweden together with NENT arranged for the same commentary position to be used not only for the local event, but also for the Le Mans broadcast, all possible by using VideoXLinks' ultra-low latency transmission. By sending the program feed from NENT MCR in Stockholm to Fällfors via NEP Sweden Media Hub with the XLink, the commentator could see and commentate to the feed less than 200 ms later. By embedding the clean commentary feed on an outgoing signal, NENT MCR in Stockholm was able to receive the feed less than 500 ms from the

original time with a 100 ms safety receiving buffer, even through a loop of 1200 km over the Internet. The Internet connection dropped several times during the broadcast, but by using packet resending, no errors were heard during the broadcast.

The use of off-site commentary is used on a daily basis for several broadcasters, but enabling the commentators to be located outside of the facility is complicated, not only due to the importance of low-latency transmission of video and audio, but also for the need of stable connections. Using VideoXLink, the need for pre-booked fiber connections becomes irrelevant.

VideoXLink Europe develops video equipment, revolutionizing the way television is being produced. Our products work over Internet as well as closed networks, all with ultra-low latency. We see it as the future of broadcasting.

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