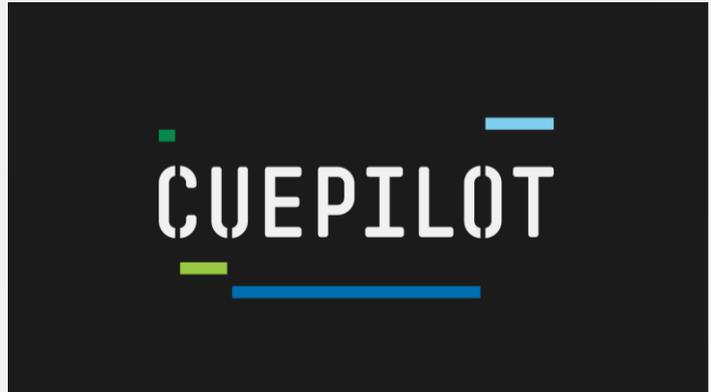


BitBox partners with CuePilot to design and manufacture a multi-platform server for live broadcast



CuePilot (CuePilot.com) provides a multi-platform, multi-user studio server system for use in live broadcast and streaming environments. Located in Denmark, the company has built a global reputation and proudly includes the entertainment show “Eurovision Song Contest” among notable productions that have relied upon their system.

CuePilot came to BitBox having identified an opportunity to further develop an existing product to better reflect the demands of new technologies. The BitBox-developed board provides multiple inputs and outputs, including interfaces for dual LTC time code, an isolated RS485 and USB device communications. The result is a product that handles text, timecode, video and audio, a Vision Switcher (used to select which camera the viewer watches) and a means to trigger connected broadcast devices.

CEO of CuePilot, Per Zachariassen, said

“CuePilot has delivered a product that is being well used in productions but we knew that new functionality would add value to the system and to the experience of its users. We approached BitBox to design and build a PCB that would be a part of our new system.”

“Key features of this new board include its ability to provide an interface for broadcast standard time codes (LTC) over industry standard XLR connectors, provide control over 3rd party devices via multiple dry contacts (GPI), interface with Macintosh and Linux computers over USB and provide communication with broadcast production switchers via a safe isolated RS422/485 serial connection. Achieving this allowed our system to better integrate with our existing technologies – all on the same PCB board”

BitBox's role was to create a specification, design the electronics and software and then manufacture the complete product, based on the rigorous demands of the system's use and to account for the new functionality required. Being a part of broadcast production, the system would be expected to be moved from venue to venue and operate in a variety of environments from arenas to outside broadcast sites.

Head of Hardware Engineering for BitBox, Matt Garnett, said of the project

"Working with the team at CuePilot to turn their ideas into a product to be used in the broadcast industry was a perfect project for BitBox. It helped to develop our knowledge of the widely used LTC time code protocol by building on our already substantial industrial control portfolio."

"Every member of the BitBox team enjoys working on this kind of project as they get to see the full design flow right through from initial customer concept to initial engineering samples, to final production units."

Having used the final product in live situations, Per Zachariassen reflects on working with BitBox.



"Working with BitBox has been great experience. The team has been extremely professional with superb engineering qualifications, being able to guide us in the right direction."

"The final system is being successfully used in live productions in many countries including Europe's biggest entertainment show, the Eurovision Song Contest 2018, broadcasting live to over 200 million viewers."