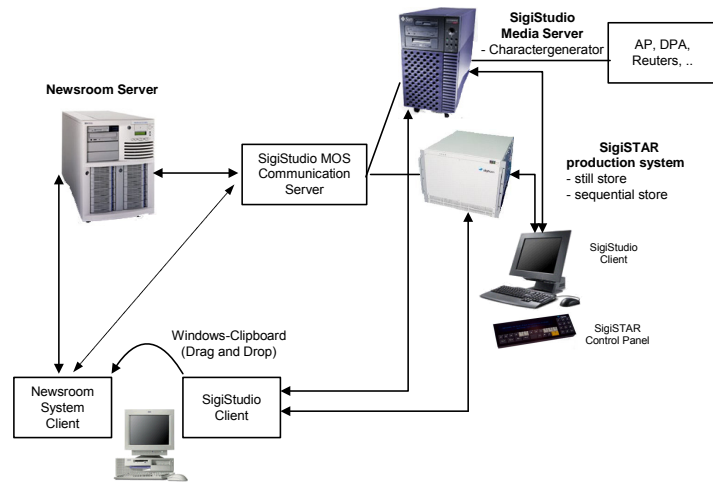


SigiStudio MOS-Server



Newsroom systems

The system series Signum SigiStudio MediAsset was designed for a comfortable client/server environment. By a consequent separation of user interface (SigiStudio-Software, Panel Control) and controlled systems like SIGI media server, SigiSTAR video stations, SigiSTAR image and media archive, video servers or external systems (e.g. Quantel systems, SGI or MAC) a flexible and modular system, which can be adapted very easily to future requirements could be realized.



Newsroom system with SigiStudio MOS-Server & production system

The corresponding, describing media / image data are stored in an open, SQL-structured SIGI plus database, which can be also accessed directly. The database administrates only links to media and images, which are controlled by the SigiSTAR media server using a standardized network control structure.

All Signum SigiSTAR systems can be controlled by the SIGNUM network interface, based on TCP/IP standards. The protocol is also includes a supervision of all open connections. During a multi user session of several SigiStudio systems with one SigiSTAR system notify messages can be transmitted automatically to show changes or deletion of data. To allow an easy connection to a newsroom system (like Dalet A.N.N. NewsWire OpenMedia or Avid INEWS), SIGNUM provides an additional standardized protocol server (Media Object Server [MOS] Protocol Version 2.5). The protocol was defined, to implement a flexible connection between newsroom computer systems (NCS) and media object servers, like e.g. video servers, still stores or character generators. This protocol based on XML-Tags (XML™ - Extensible Markup Language) is very similar to the SIGNUM data structure and was expanded by additional functions to provide a full bi-directional communication.

Each SigiSTAR System can be connected to the SIGNUM Media Object Server to be controlled by a newsroom system. All external systems like Quantel, SGI or MAC, which are integrated in the Signum environment, can be used in the same way.

The MOS-protocol is used to select media for a production and to create and modify a corresponding play list or running order. An optional bi-directional synchronous connection mode between newsroom system and SigiSTAR is able to handle media or running order changes arranged from both sides.

There are three different ways to control the production:

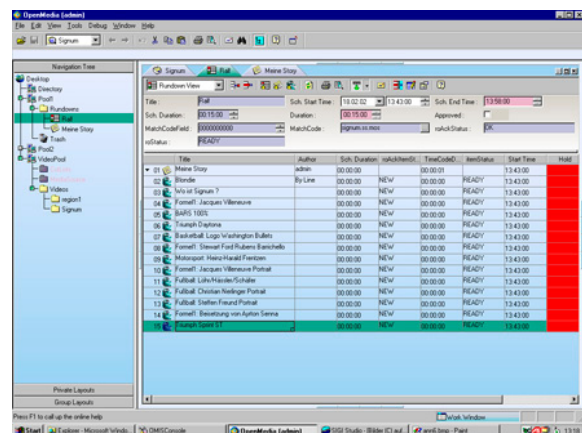
- **Manual Playout of media**
The Newsroom system prepares the running order, which can be changed online, if necessary. The channel selection and the final Playout of each media will be controlled manually.
- **Semi automatic Playout of media**
The Newsroom system is able to define the output channel and the corresponding transition effects. The result is the final play list, which will be used for manual Playout only.
- **Full automatic Playout of media**
The final play list will be created by the Newsroom system, to be used without manual interaction. But, if necessary, a manual interaction, which will be reported back to the newsroom system, is possible. The automatic Playout can be controlled via network or other interfaces like RS-422, using various protocols (e.g. Leitch).

News systems mainly are character based and thus selected media are shown often by symbols or describing texts. The SigiStudio and SigiSTAR environment comes with a powerful graphical user interface as well as integrated preview possibilities for nearly all kind of media. The integrated image processing functionality allows easy creation of news graphics. Therefore a parallel use of the Newsroom system client (e.g. NewsWire OpenMedia client) and the SigiStudio client is very useful.

SigiStudio is a full 32 bit windows based application, the communication between the two tasks can be handled by drag and drop or the windows clipboard structure. The editor can use the full SigiSTAR functionality to search for media or to combine a special news graphics table, using different images. In this case the newsroom system only gets the URL-link to the corresponding data structure to be used for further communication. If a media of the SigiSTAR environment is linked to NewsWire OpenMedia, there can be used a special SigiSTAR XML/OCX-module for preview.



Running order in SigiStudio software



Running order in OpenMedia

Important features

- Network based client/server concept SigiSTAR
- SigiStudio user interface separated from video functionality
- Selection of stills, sequences, clips, play lists or productions using drag and drop and preview icons
- Integrated SigiSTAR play lists for stills, image sequences, video clips and graphic templates
- SigiStudio Textwriter to create standard news graphics by editors
- Comfortable interface to external systems like Quantel, SGI or MAC
- Drag and drop between SigiStudio and newsroom system clients (e.g. Dalet ANN OpenMedia)
- Bidirectional MOS-interface to connect SigiSTAR systems and newsroom server systems
- Play lists can be created, modified or controlled by newsroom system or SigiStudio