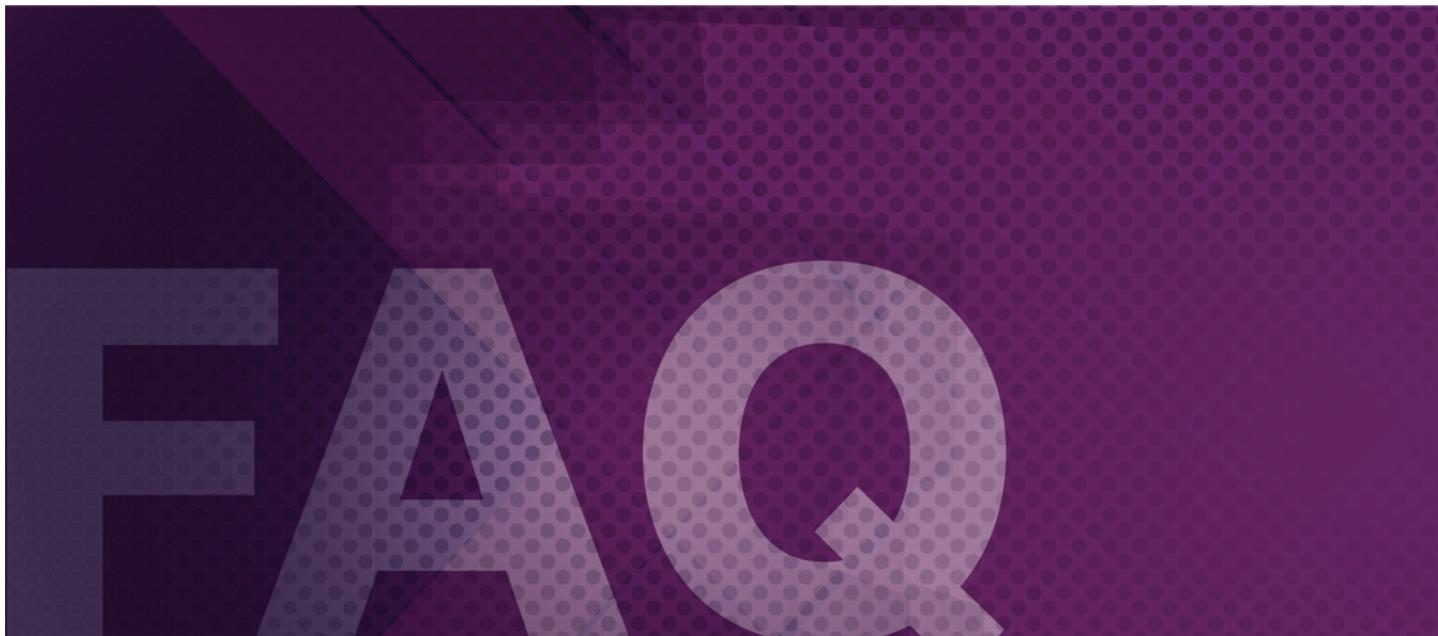# GV STRATUS

1. What is GV STRATUS?

GV STRATUS from Grass Valley, a Belden Brand, is a modular video production and content management system, based on K2 media servers and storage, which embraces ingest, editing, distribution and archive & retrieval management. Key customer benefits include better efficiency through workflow automation, ease of use and scalability, all combining to make GV STRATUS a prime enabler for producing more content, faster.

The tools within GV STRATUS can be adapted in an almost infinite number of combinations, meaning it can be tailored to studio production, play-to-air, news and many other broadcast and video production roles. Operationally, GV STRATUS opens up a new user experience paradigm. Individual users can tailor their GV STRATUS desktop environment according to the task at hand. At the workgroup level, collaborative workflows are enabled where everyone has access to every clip on the network with the tools required to manage the content. In this way, GV STRATUS allows the media enterprise to optimize workflows by consolidating roles for efficiencies, while at the same enabling team and cross-organizational collaboration.

2. What are some of the uses for GV STRATUS?

GV STRATUS is focused on production environments for news, sports and other live production, studio production, play to air and content preparation for digital media distribution. These include operations looking to feed and file ingest to K2 server and storage systems, content management, archive interfaces, basic editing, low-resolution editor integration, choice of mainstream craft editors integration and content preparation for publishing to digital media platforms.

There are also capabilities aimed at specific workflows such as news, live/sports production or play-to-air including NRCS integration, MOS-driven playout, P2/XDCAM import, wide area news production, gang record/play of multiple K2 server channels, logging, creation of playlists and basic program/commercial preparation.

3. With what infrastructure does the GV STRATUS application layer interact?

GV STRATUS interacts with K2 Summit media servers and storage to provide a unified infrastructure and content model for all asset management use cases and an expandable foundation for new applications and workflows. Leveraging open-standard IT components and technologies, the K2 platform brings the benefits of mainstream computer industries to the broadcast enterprise — including the latest advances in processing power and storage capacity, ease of integration, and streamlined operation and management.

Flexible and robust, the K2 platform handles ingest, editing, clip store, replay and playout. Deployments can easily scale up for capacity, channels, and guaranteed bandwidth — delivering unmatched longevity and eliminating the need for significant repeat investment.

Recording formats and resolutions can all be changed on a channel-by-channel basis without a system reboot. Standard industry-wide formats such as DVCPRO, AVC-Intra, DNxHD, MPEG-2 (XDCAM) and H.264 playout are supported. Formats and resolutions can be changed on a clip-by clip basis. All formats and resolutions can be played back-to-back on a single channel with automatic up/down/ cross and aspect ratio conversion. A standard system supports up to four channels in any combination of recording or playback. The ChannelFlex software option provides additional flexibility to be used in configurations such as 4 record/2 play, or 6 record/1 play.

4. Does GV STRATUS work with original K2 systems or only with K2 Summit?

The current version of GV STRATUS (4.0) requires specific hardware/software capabilities that are only available with K2 Summit 9.3 (or higher) and K2 Solo 9.3 (or higher) media servers.

5. Which NRCS system interfaces are available within GV STRATUS?

A series of archive, conform, and metadata management enhancements primarily address unique newsroom production needs. This functionality, when combined with AP ENPS, Octopus, Avid iNEWS, Annova OpenMedia or other newsroom computer systems (NRCS), permits users to access all of their GV STRATUS tools within the NRCS — streamlining the entire production process. These new tools also facilitate the unlimited sharing of clips and content creation tools between collaborative workgroups or individual users.

6. With what archive systems can GV STRATUS users interact?

GV STRATUS can archive to Front Porch Digital's DIVArchive, SGL FlashNet, Masstech and generic FTP storage.

7. What edit tools are available for use within GV STRATUS?

GV STRATUS includes a tool for basic storyboard editing to quickly build simple sequences. For more complex editing, there is a choice of integrated editors. Grass Valley EDIUS can be used in multiple ways — from full proxy desktop editing including voice-overs to high-resolution craft editing. EDIUS — in addition to Apple Final Cut Pro 7, Adobe Premiere Pro CC, Avid Media Composer, Avid NewsCutter and Avid Symphony — can be integrated for high-resolution craft editing either by performing file transfers of both content and metadata, or edit-in-place when using K2 SAN infrastructure with no transfers needed.

8. Does GV STRATUS support publishing to digital media platforms?

GV STRATUS packs a powerful set of services and tools spanning the entire production lifecycle, to enable efficient preparation and delivery of content for publishing to digital media platforms.

9. How does GV STRATUS address system security?

With version 4.0, systems administrators can set read, write and delete permissions at a very granular level. Permissions can be set for user groups and individuals, applied to both specific assets and K2 bins, to improve system security within those bins.

10. Do GV STRATUS systems enable WAN-based workflows?

GV STRATUS multisite and wide area news capabilities enable transfer of media among multiple sites as well as field-to-site, with remote browsing of proxies and retrieval of full resolution media from GV STRATUS clients. Working from WAN-connected clients, users can access and download content from central SANs, edit in EDIUS editing tools and push finished work to a remote SAN site.

11. Can GV STRATUS be used in conjunction with the K2 Dyno Replay System?

K2 Dyno Replay Systems starting with version 3.3 and higher software and K2 Summit 9.3. and higher support highlights, metadata, and playlist exchanges with GV STRATUS. There is a special software mode only for K2 Dyno users that enables bidirectional synchronization of markers between K2 Dyno and GV STRATUS.

12. Can Aurora be upgraded to GV STRATUS?

There is an Aurora-to-GV STRATUS tool to migrate the Aurora database to a GV STRATUS database. This recreates the correct K2 assets from existing assets for Aurora customers who want to upgrade to GV STRATUS. Existing proxies can be played or recreated to a newer format.

13. How does the GV STRATUS application framework integrate with third-party systems?

With GV STRATUS, Grass Valley can efficiently and regularly add new software components to preserve customers' investments and help them leverage and upgrade to the most advanced content creation tools quickly and easily. Using a consistent service-oriented model, GV STRATUS integrates with internal and third-party software modules, and for rapid integration with best-of-breed technologies.

A powerful web service API (RESTful web API) is available to third-parties to implement specific integration requirements or to develop innovative production tools.

Grass Valley partners with industry-leading technology/solutions providers to integrate existing/new systems such as traffic, asset management, NRCS, editing, transcoding and archive.

14. What services and support are available with GV STRATUS?

The GV STRATUS application framework is not an out-of-the-box product, but rather a customizable solution. Grass Valley Professional Services consult with users to better understand their needs at individual, workgroup or enterprise levels — as well as their full range of operational and business challenges. Informed through this consultative process, we design custom and optimized workflow solutions for media access, production, packaging and distribution that best fit your unique environments. Grass Valley Professional Services also include solution cell pre-configuration, commissioning/deployment services and training.