



MEDIA WORKFLOW SOLUTIONS



The customer:



The Integrator:

CHESA

The Solution:

Scale Logic's NX2 NAS and Remote Access Portal (RAP) Server Appliance

About NX2 NAS

Scale Logic's feature-rich, extreme performance NX2 NAS offers enterprise workflows and features without the enterprise cost:

- ✓ Unlimited snapshot functionality
- ✓ Data replication and data encryption at rest
- ✓ Scale out from 48TB to 9PB
- ✓ 24x7x365 health monitoring
- ✓ Hybrid cloud support
- ✓ Free trial version of storage analytics
- ✓ Single global namespace up to 2PB

About Remote Access Portal (RAP)

Scale Logic's revolutionary RAP works with any SAN or NAS device, providing ultimate security and control while enabling remote workforces to access on-prem storage for both proxy and high-resolution workflows.

“When any challenges have come up, Scale Logic has been very much on top of things in partnering with CHESA to come up with resolutions. I’m happy to say the support we’ve received since making the switch to Scale Logic has been much quicker and more responsive compared to previous storage systems.”

— Kevin Leonardo, Director of Event & Video Production

About U.S. Figure Skating

As the national governing body for the sport of figure skating in the United States, U.S. Figure Skating is one of the strongest and largest organizations within the winter Olympic movement—with more than 178,000 members in member clubs, collegiate clubs and school-affiliated clubs. The organization is also a member of the International Skating Union (ISU), the international federation for figure skating, and the United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee.

The Challenge

The video production department at U.S. Figure Skating was created about a decade ago, when the organization decided to stop outsourcing content creation and bring the majority of the work in-house. Currently, on any given day, the department oversees daily management of footage, collaborative project meetings, project/concept storyboard, content creation as well as editing tasks.

As the team's main storage system was approaching end of life, the department began experiencing routine internal hard drive failures. In addition, there was very little remote capability for accessing footage while working at home or at live competitive events—which significantly impeded editors' and content creators' ability to efficiently share footage amongst one another.

"Even pre-Covid, we had to wait till anyone got back to the office to put footage on the server before being able to access it—so as our equipment started failing and the only way to share or access footage remotely was through VPN, it became increasingly evident that we needed to make a switch," says Kevin Leonardo, Director of Event & Video Production.



The Solution

As a non-profit organization with a somewhat limited budget, U.S. Figure Skating's video department faced the challenge of finding the best solution that fit within their overall vision of the system as a whole, while also falling in line with current trends. The team reached out to their systems integrator, CHESA, for help with production upgrade recommendations.

After looking at multiple solutions, the department selected Scale Logic's WorkflowConnect—the world's first Comprehensive Media Workflow Platform. This platform enables post-production professionals to seamlessly integrate storage platforms, hybrid management, remote workflows, data analytics, workflow orchestration and the most powerful GPU-driven workstations and servers available on the market today.

From the platform, U.S. Figure Skating implemented Scale Logic's NX2 NAS Server, and Remote Access Portal (RAP) Appliance.

"CHESA really took time to understand our needs and had the ability to see how this new system should be built out within our existing infrastructure and budget," says Kevin. "As such, when we started looking at possibilities, CHESA was very confident in recommending Scale Logic to us for storage—it would double our storage capacity, which was critical because having a system that reflected growth was key for us. Moreover, as we had ongoing discussions about workflows, that's when we realized the RAP server would also meet our objectives."

As the system can adapt to various workflows, Scale Logic and CHESA were able to easily adapt the RAP server's feature set according to the department's needs. As well, the department worked with both companies to support their requirements for the initial ingest.

"We had 3 TB worth of content that we wanted immediately accessible to our editors on the RAP server, including a full year of footage from various competitions, plus some historical footage. In the end, Scale Logic and CHESA were able to configure the hard drives here in our office, connected to the RAP server through a direct connection from our workstations before sending those hard drives out to editors. We're in a great spot now, with editors able to sync in remotely, because the amount of footage is minimal in comparison to that initial download."

Today, the combined solution fits in smoothly with the department's existing media asset management system, is used daily as a "house" for the team's assets, and enables remote capability for the video team spread out across three different cities.

"The value of working with Scale Logic is that their platform WorkflowConnect provides all the pieces to complete a solution for small to enterprise customers—including five types of shared storage, remote workflow options, hybrid cloud management, workstations and servers, as well as the added professional services we have come to rely on."—Keith Larson, Senior Account Executive, Central US—CHESA



The Results / Benefits

As a result of implementing the Scale Logic solution, the U.S. Figure Skating video production department has reaped multiple rewards—including increased bandwidth, additional flexibility for working remotely, workflow process efficiency, and easier access to and sharing of key footage.

“From a time-management perspective, the biggest benefit has been the response of the support team,” says Kevin. “When any challenges have come up, Scale Logic has been very much on top of things in partnering with CHESA to come up with resolutions. I’m happy to say the support we’ve received since making the switch to Scale Logic has been much quicker and more responsive compared to previous storage systems.”

Conclusion

As for the future, U.S. Figure Skating plans to continue working in partnership with CHESA as they evolve the system over time.

“We recently did archive workflows, moving away from tape and pushing to Amazon; we’re planning a hardware upgrade for next year involving servers for MAM; and we also hope to improve more processes through custom workflows, including a more efficient and robust workflow for photo ingest,” says Kevin.

“Given that we’ve developed such a great relationship with CHESA and they’ve been wonderful in providing us their expertise, I look forward to their recommendations through these next phases.”