

ABU Technology Activity Report for Technical Committee Meeting 2024

A brief report of activities organised by ABU Technology is given below since the TC2023 meeting last October. The report looks into three areas; the first part is on Capacity Building Activities; the second part is on International Cooperation and Contributions, and the third part is the publications and the other projects.

1. Capacity Building Activities

Webinar on ICDN And Data Clean Rooms in Media Industry:

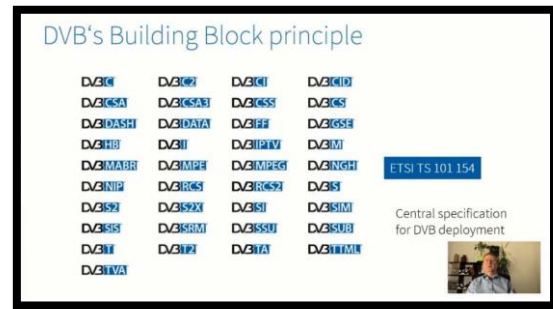
ABU Technology organized a webinar session on 21 September, Thursday. The webinar session discussed on diverse and important technical areas focused to ICDN.VIDEO such as data clean room for secure media collaboration; client data platform for redefining data sharing in the post-cookies era; digital media room which is a theatre-style box for collaborative viewing.

The session was presented by a panel of speakers led by Dr Ahmad Moradi from Netstairs/VYPA and other panellists joined were M Vijjayandran from VYPA, Pattrik Ting from K Media in Malaysia and Dr Francis Teo, an AI Architect from Singapore. Over Ninety 90 participants attended the webinar. They spanned from 30 countries from Asia-Pacific and elsewhere representing about sixty 60 organizations.



Webinar on Unlocking the Future of Video – Adding Next Generation Video Codecs to The DVB Toolbox:

Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU), in cooperation with IEEE Broadcast Technology Society, organised a webinar on Unlocking the Future of Video: Adding Next Generation Video Codecs to the DVB toolbox at 21st November. Jan Outters, Director of Technology & Standards at Ateame, was the focal presenter in the session that was moderated by Dr Peter Siebert who is Vice President at the IEEE Broadcast Technology Society. Over hundred fifteen (115) participants attended the webinar. They spanned from 39 countries from Asia-Pacific and elsewhere representing about sixty-five (65) organizations.



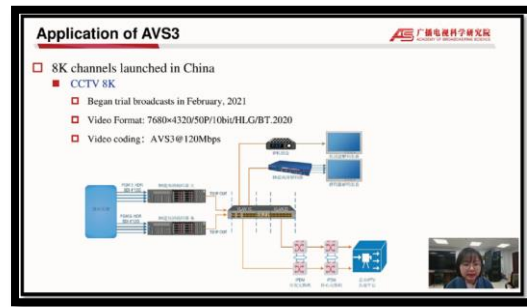
ABU – DRM webinar on Delivering emergency Warnings with DRM:

The Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU), in cooperation with DRM Consortium, organised a webinar on 'Delivering Emergency Warnings with DRM'. The webinar was streamed live on February 7, Wednesday. Around 70 participants representing over 58 organisations from 26 countries in the Asia-Pacific, Arab region, Europe and elsewhere attended the event. Speakers' line-up from DRM Consortium included Ruxandra Obreja, Alexander Zink, Radu P. Obreja and Yogendra Pal. They discussed Emergency Warning Functionality (EWF) of DRM Digital Radio for enhancing disaster response and communication. Members and colleagues are eager to travel and join such workshops again. The ABU TD plans to organise another face-to-face workshop in the coming months.



Webinar on Third generation AVS video coding standard (AVS3) - features and applications:

On 9 April 2024, the Asia Pacific Broadcasting Union hosted a webinar titled "Third Generation AVS Video Coding Standard (AVS3): Features and Applications", presented by Ms Zhou Yun, Senior Engineer at the Academy of Broadcasting Science, NRTA-China. The session provided an in-depth exploration of AVS3, highlighting its features, applications, and the advancements it brings to video coding technology. Around 60 participants representing over 35 organisations from 24 countries attended the event. The presentation provided an overview of the evolution of video coding standards, both internationally and within China. International standards such as MPEG and ITU-T's H.264 and H.265 were mentioned alongside China's own AVS standards. Zhou highlighted the continuous efforts of the AVS working group in China, which has developed AVS1, AVS2, and now AVS3 over the past two decades.



ABU and NRTA seminar at 30th CCBN celebration:

The ABU seminar, titled “Trendsetters in the Media Industry: Next-Gen A/V Codecs, AI Tools, and Virtual Production”, was a dynamic gathering of industry pioneers held on Thursday, 25 April, at the Buffer Room Multifunction Hall in the Shougang Exhibition and Convention Center, Beijing. Hosted by the National Radio and Television Administration (NRTA) and the AsiaPacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) Technical Bureau, this event was part of the 30th anniversary celebrations of the China Content Broadcasting Network Exhibition 2024 (CCBN).



2. International Cooperation and Partnership

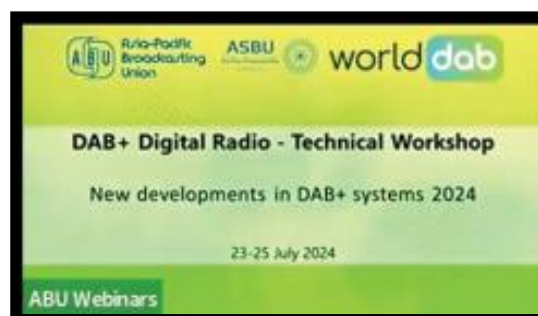
A24 GLOBAL COORDINATION CONFERENCE:

From January 15 to 19, 2024, the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) hosted the A24 Global Coordination Conference in partnership with the High Frequency Coordination Conference (HFCC) and the Arab States Broadcasting Union (ASBU) at the Royale Chulan Kuala Lumpur. ABU member representatives from esteemed organizations such as LPP Radio Republik Indonesia, Turkish Radio Television, Nippon Hoso Kyokai, and other organisation including Radio Miami International, the U.S. Agency for Global Media, Reach Beyond Australia, Vatican Radio, Broadcast Belgium, and THALES, among others, gathered to lend their expertise. Their mission was to harmonise shortwave frequency schedules for the impending summer season, ensuring seamless communication across continents. About 60 delegates, representing a staggering 90 percent of shortwave frequencies used for global broadcasting, attended the week-long dialogue. Their collective wisdom and shared vision promise to shape the future of broadcasting, transcending borders and bridging cultures. The B24 Conference will be held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan from August 26 to 30, 2024.



DAB+ digital radio: Technical workshop on new developments in DAB+ systems Webinar series:

The Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU), in partnership with the Arab States Broadcasting Union (ASBU) and WorldDAB, organised a Technical Workshop on DAB+ Digital Radio from 23 to 25 July 2024. Conducted as a three-day webinar series, the workshop focused on the latest advancements in DAB+ systems. It aimed to update broadcasters and media professionals on recent developments, covering various topics such as the business case for DAB+, technical updates, system features, headend systems, transmission, and the complexities of building out the DAB+ network.



3. Technical Advisory Services

VOV Vietnam's Radio Digital Future -Workshop:

The Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) has partnered with Voice of Vietnam (VOV) to advance digital transformation in radio broadcasting. This collaboration was highlighted by a workshop on 12 July 2024, during the 16th National Radio Festival in Thanh Hoa, Vietnam, where ABU provided technical advice at VOV's request.

ABU showcased its commitment through expert presentations. Dr Veysel Binbay, Director of ABU Technology, led a session on "Technicalities in Content Delivery Platforms", discussing the role of AI and Big Data in modernising content delivery. He highlighted automation, machine learning, and data analytics tools such as Avid, Veritone and TVU for improving audience engagement and streamlining operations. Demonstrations included AI-powered multilingual capabilities for delivering content in languages such as Italian, French, Japanese and Malay.

Malaysia's RTM, represented by Mr Ahmad Shafiq Mirza Mansor, presented the Arkib Digital Berita (ADiB) system. This digital archive manages news content from 14 states and integrates a Media Asset Management (MAM) system with a file-based workflow and Production Asset Management (PAM) system. Launched in 2021, ADiB aims to preserve and enhance the accessibility of news content across platforms using AI services for face and object recognition and audio-to-text transcription.

Australia's ABC, represented by Mr Matt O'Sullivan, highlighted their AI-driven converged newsroom strategy. This approach optimises content production and distribution across various platforms, streamlining newsroom operations for more efficient content management and delivery in a fast-paced media environment.

NHK World Media, represented by Mr Chimaki Shimura, showcased their AI-powered global services. NHK demonstrated AI-translated multilingual subtitles for live streams in nine languages and AI-generated voice reading services for emergency news and regular broadcasts, supporting up to 19 languages.



4. Digital Broadcasting Symposium 2024

The 2024 ABU Digital Broadcasting Symposium was held from 4-7 March 2024 at the Royale Chulan Kuala Lumpur. This symposium, aptly themed 'Navigating AI Horizon' is organised once a year by ABU. This year's DBS is the twentieth in the series. Prior to the conference, a workshop by Integriti Padu Sdn Bhd (IPSB) was held in the morning of March 4 followed by a DAB+ workshop in the afternoon. The 3-day conference, 2 masterclass sessions, 8 workshops, together with roughly 50 exhibition booths, provided the unique opportunity for attendees to have access to information on various aspects of broadcasting ranging from terrestrial to IP. There were around 1000 participants, 300 organisations from over 50 countries who attended this years DBS.



5. Publications

Technical Review:

We have published four issues of [Technical Review](#) as usual within current period from last year's annual TC meeting as shown below:

