

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) created a new public communications channel by awarding Online Video Service one of the first five-year live webcasting contracts in the history of U.S. federal government procurement.

Challenge

The NRC set a mission critical goal of improving public access to its public meetings, which take place in Rockville, Maryland, U.S.A. Historically, these meetings have allowed commissioners to discuss policies and direction of the NRC, which governs the safety and operations of the United States' 141 nuclear reactors.



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NRC planned two to three video webcasts per month to more than 500 viewers. The main challenges were security and engineering redundancy to ensure availability. The commissioners also wanted the webcasts archived for on-demand viewing at a later time. NRC solicited bids from leading webcast providers throughout the United States, and picked Online Video Service in 2004.

Solution

The NRC awarded Online Video Service a five-year contract, the first ever long-term webcasting contract in the history of U.S. federal government procurement. Online Video Service mobilized its team of webcast specialists, programmers, and managers to work with NRC staff to integrate the OVS Open Government Platform™ with NRC technical requirements.

Specific tasks included:

- Setup and installation of two fail-safe OVS Encoding Stations™
- Security and redundancy measures that meet federal compliance standards
- Quality assurance tests the day before each scheduled event
- Webcast management during events to ensure continuous, uninterrupted service
- Integration with live captioning
- Host archived video for 24x7 access worldwide

Result

The NRC achieved its goals of building a new channel for communicating safety and growth policies for a critical part of the United States' energy delivery systems. Online Video Service has seamlessly managed more than 200 video webcasts of commission meetings to date.

View

To view an archive of the NRC's webcasts, please visit this web address: http://video.nrc.gov.