



Press Release – for immediate publication

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ALC NetworkX releases RAVENNA-2-SAP Converter tool

As the AES67 interoperability standard continues to gain traction, so the need for tools to facilitate interoperability increases. ALC NetworkX, developers of the high performance RAVENNA audio networking technology, is therefore pleased to announce the release of RAV2SAP, an extremely useful RAVENNA-to-SAP freeware conversion tool designed to help connect RAVENNA devices to other AES67 devices.

ALC NetworkX's Andreas Hildebrand explains why RAV2SAP is important. "Most people would agree that, in an ideal world, when setting up a network, it would be wonderful not to be limited in one's choice of devices on the network, or indeed one's choice of network protocol because of incompatibility issues. The AES67 standard for high performance AoIP interoperability was published in 2013 in order to provide some common ground and basic guidelines for manufacturers wishing to incorporate interoperability capabilities into their products."

Crucial to the success of any network is connection management between devices and the exchange of SDP data which describes specific stream characteristics and connection information. The AES67 standard doesn't mandate for any specific connection management methods as different solutions exist depending on the application. In RAVENNA, the SDP data is conveyed via the RTSP protocol which is a common method in layer 3 (IP) streaming applications. Other systems, in particular Audinate's Dante™ protocol, exclusively utilize the SAP protocol for SDP data transfer. However, since they offer no manual means for SDP data read-out or entry, they cannot connect to other AES67 devices unless these also support SAP.

"While some RAVENNA devices have implemented SAP in addition to RAVENNA's standard SDP data exchange method, we felt that interconnectivity would be greatly facilitated if a generic RAVENNA-to-SAP converter providing a translation service between RAVENNA and SAP announcements were available," observed Hildebrand. "Furthermore, since the RAV2SAP converter supports manual entry and read-out of SDP data as well as automatic translation, it also enables devices not adhering to the RAVENNA or Dante technology realm to connect to any available AES67 stream via manual SDP data exchange, as well as acting as a great diagnostic tool for monitoring exchanged SDP data.

Hildebrand concludes: "Since RAVENNA and AES67 are both based on an open technology approach utilizing the same principles and protocols, and RAVENNA has always advocated open interconnectivity, we decided to make the converter available as a freeware tool, downloadable from the RAVENNA website."



For further information, please visit:

<http://www.ravenna-network.com/using-ravenna/support/rav2sap/>

About RAVENNA:

RAVENNA is a technology for real-time distribution of audio and other media content in IP-based network environments. Utilizing standardized network protocols and technologies, RAVENNA can operate on existing network infrastructures. RAVENNA is designed to meet the strict requirements of the pro audio market featuring low latency, full signal transparency and high reliability.

While primarily targeting the professional broadcast market, RAVENNA is also suitable for deployment in other pro audio market segments like live sound, install market and recording. Possible fields of application include (but are not limited to) in-house signal distribution in broadcasting houses, theaters, concert halls and other fixed installations, flexible setups at venues and live events, OB van support, inter-facility links across WAN connections and in production & recording applications.

Unlike most other existing networking solutions, RAVENNA is an open technology standard without a proprietary licensing policy. RAVENNA is fully compatible with the AES67-2013 standard on *High-performance Streaming Audio-over-IP Interoperability*.

About ALC NetworX GmbH:

ALC NetworX is an R&D company in Munich, Germany. A team of experts with excellent reputation from the Pro Audio industry and in-depth knowledge in networking technologies has developed the RAVENNA technology platform. While ALC NetworX will continue to keep the lead role in the RAVENNA technology development, product implementations will be executed by individual partner companies. Current partner companies include 2wcom, AEQ, AETA, Archwave, ARG, arkona, Axia, Boldburg, Calrec, Cordial, Covelo, Digigram, Dimetis, DirectOut, DSA Volgmann, GatesAir, Genelec, Infomedia, Jutel, Lawo, Linear Acoustic, LSB, Luminex, Meinberg, Merging, Modulation Index, MTS, Neumann, Omicron Lab, Omnia, Orban, Qbit, Riedel, Schoeps, SCISYS, Sennheiser, Sonifex, Sound4, Telos, Ward-Beck and WorldCast Systems and others. Interested manufacturers are welcome to join the RAVENNA partner community.

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