

MediaSphere DTA

Streaming firmware and channel maps to DTA boxes

Delivering Digital Services to Analog Subscribers

Cable operators are installing DTA converter boxes at the subscriber's premises in order to reclaim bandwidth from analog services.

These devices allow the subscriber to continue receiving the package they have paid for while the operator can extract greater value from the bandwidth through new digital services.

However, mature infrastructures are faced with an array of headends, muxes and other distribution points, plus operators must support multiple networks within the cable plant. Delivering the correct data to all the DTA boxes throughout the operators' footprint can therefore be a challenge.

Furthermore, cable operators have a requirement to deliver firmware and software updates to these DTA boxes.

To resolve these challenges, cable operators require a headend-based system that is capable of streaming the necessary firmware updates to the DTA box, as well as channel maps and other data such as SI and EPG, for multiple networks.

MediaSphere DTA – Delivering Data and Software

Softel has a robust reputation in interactive TV (iTV) since its onset and is an expert in the delivery of digital services and interactive applications to major cable operators and programmers in North America.

MediaSphere DTA, is Softel's answer to the complex challenges faced by cable operators using DTA boxes. MediaSphere DTA has been specifically designed to simply and efficiently deliver firmware and software updates, SI and EPG data, as well as many types of SCTE data, to digital converter boxes.

In addition to DTA boxes, MediaSphere DTA offers an upgrade path to deliver data and software to other Consumer Premise Equipment (CPE), such as CableCARD™ boxes and traditional set-top boxes.

Key features

- Efficient software updates of DTA boxes located in viewers premises
- Reliable streaming of SI and EPG data
- Supports various EPG data (including Tribune)
- Simple to configure and use
- Output via GigE or ASI from single rack-unit server
- Scalable – delivers to multiple networks

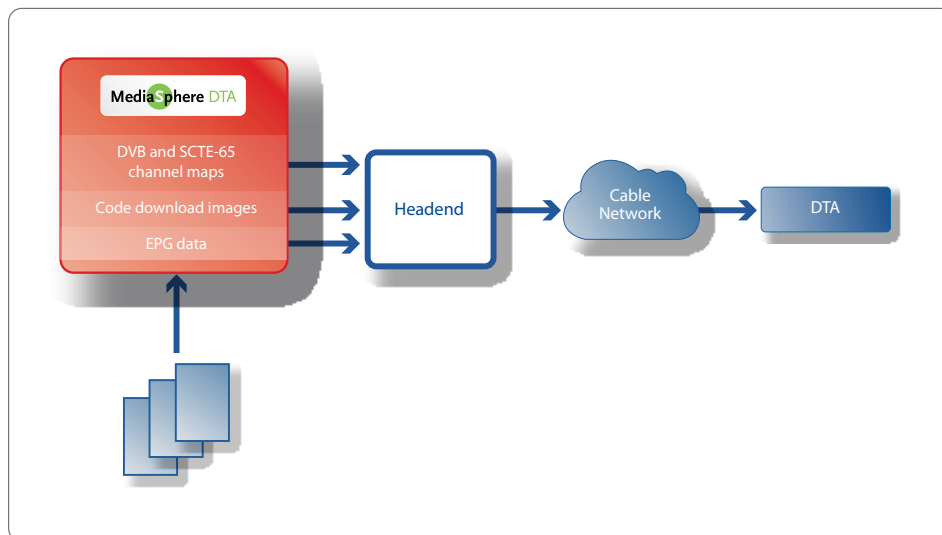


A feature-packed solution

Softel's MediaSphere DTA product has been specifically designed to provide a versatile and efficient solution for headend transport stream generation aimed at digital converter boxes such as DTAs;

Configure Channel Maps

MediaSphere DTA's intuitive GUI allows for rapid configuration of networks, transport streams and services. A single elegant GUI allows for all configuration parameters to be adjusted and set, such as amending tables, descriptor parameters and DVB/SCTE options.



Typical MediaSphere DTA configuration

Control Transmission

All transmission options (such as bitrate and interval) are also configurable for all SI tables. Furthermore, any configuration changes made while 'on-air' are seamlessly handled by the engine's version control mechanism.

Code Download

MediaSphere DTA's code download feature is operated via a web application that provides monitoring, as well as the command and control of scheduled or manual code download sessions. It offers seamless headend integration to edge devices such as QAMs and CMTSs, as well as an asset distribution interface for code download images and CVT certificates deployment.

Intelligent Design

Time zone management allows distributed components, so MediaSphere DTA can be in one time zone with the network in another. The system's intelligent EPG generation, handles schedules for a configurable number of days and EPG source data updates are simply dropped onto the system.

Maintenance, support and services

Support is always a key component when creating an integrated solution, that's why in addition to providing full consultation when delivering a solution, Softel also offers in-house expert support. A tiered range of support options known as Softel Care, are available spanning from simple software updates to full 24 x 7 x 365 telephone, and on-site engineering support.

Due to continuous enhancement and development by Softel, product features, designs and specifications are subject to change without notice. Please contact Softel to confirm details of any required functionality or specification. © Copyright Softel Group 2010

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