

# Molinare – the leading UK supplier of post-production solutions



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## At a glance

Whether it be UHD and HDR projects for Netflix and Amazon, feature films, high-end TV dramas and documentaries or factual entertainment, Molinare's creative excellence is visible and audible in every project. This has been recognized with multiple Emmy, BAFTA and RTS awards and nominations.

The Molinare group had seven films screening at the 2017 Toronto Film Festival. Current credits include "Journeys End", "Goodbye Christopher Robin", "Cold Feet" and "Tin Star". The company has recently increased its investment in its 4K and HDR infrastructure and has completed the redesign and installation of a Dolby® Atmos mixing theater.

## R&S®CLIPSTER version 6

The R&S®CLIPSTER is the gold standard workstation for mastering and distributing films and episodic TV. The R&S®CLIPSTER provides a foundation for post-production vendors to build services upon.

### Key facts

- ▀ Payout up to 4K 120p RGB 12 bit
- ▀ Ingest up to 4K 60p YUV 422 10 bit
- ▀ Realtime processing up to 4K 120p RGB 10 bit
- ▀ Realtime processing up to 4K 60p RGB 32-bit float
- ▀ DCI & IMF J2K encoding up to 4K 60p RGB 12 bit
- ▀ SDI, display port, HDMI display interfaces

## The customer

Since its launch over 40 years ago, Molinare has gained an outstanding reputation for its post-production work on high-end television and feature projects and has deservedly earned its place as one of the top post-production houses in the UK.

Specializing in grading and digital intermediate, sound, VFX and workflow management, Molinare provides a warm, welcoming environment for clients, retaining a boutique feel while offering state-of-the-art resources.

Molinare's passion for film and television comes across through its award-winning work. The team loves collaborating with directors and production teams to form partnerships, resulting in projects that look and sound beautiful. And with its expertise in emerging technologies such as 4K workflows and HDR grading, Molinare is able to provide the most creative and technically advanced services possible

"We specified a Rohde & Schwarz Gen 6 Clipster to achieve 16-bit EXR playback in realtime at 4K, 24 frames per second. The installation went swimmingly, as the Clipster is very easy to set up – it's plug and play – and it comes preconfigured."

Richard Wilding

## The challenge

Molinare wanted a robust, reliable solution to achieve 16-bit EXR playback in realtime at 4K, 24 frames per second, and to master DCPs to deadline, on time, every time. For Molinare's CTO, Richard Wilding, there was only one choice. Here, he shares his thinking behind Molinare's recent purchase of the R&S®CLIPSTER, version 6.

"The volume of DCP work we've got has gone up almost tenfold, so we needed a reliable workhorse to push that work through," Richard Wilding explains. "We're finding that DCPs are an increasingly popular tool for review with a wider use beyond cinema delivery. We also use the Clipster for the playback of heavy files in realtime with video output".

The combination of tailored hardware and software within the Clipster means you get the very best performance. The software is written to make the most of the hardware and then married to dedicated graphics card processing. It's quicker than other solutions that are software driven and run on a separate platform. The benefit of a single all-in-one box is that it's very well tuned. Because Rohde&Schwarz creates a lot of its own hardware that's tailored to work with the software, you get the best out of the combination.

Jpeg 2000 encoding has been a core factor underpinning the Clipster's success. The Clipster provides excellent, fast results. The most common failures or problems arise from a mismatch between the software and hardware that



you're working with. The Clipster is a tightly integrated hardware and software platform, so most of these issues are well resolved by one entity.

Every production, every deliverable has a deadline, and that deadline is of key importance, regardless of the weight of failure. So we've got to get it right the first time, all of the time.

### The R&S®CLIPSTER – the gold standard

"The ecosystem of DCPs lends more credence to a de facto gold standard product. If we deliver an AS11 file to a broadcaster, all the facilities are delivering that one specification to many broadcasters: it's many to one," Wilding continues.

"In the world of DCPs, it's very different: we're one to many. When we create a DCP, it could be played back on a Doremi, a Dolby®, a Sony or another server. Those servers could be running very different software on very different generations of hardware, so you've got to create that one deliverable and know that it will play on many systems throughout the world. That's difficult to achieve because despite the fact that everything is ratified, there's sometimes confusion within the SMPTE standard.

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You can create a DCP that can play perfectly well on the majority of servers but not on a particular server that's running a particular version of software."

### The results

"It's the subtler aspects of DCPs that tend to make them fail, like subtitle tracks, multiple dialogue tracks in foreign languages and different CPLs for them: the kind of areas that push compatibility a bit harder on different systems. And we have the SMPTE standard DCPs, which are being phased in in stages. Each of those stages brings about another chance of incompatibility. With the addition of different layers to the SMPTE specifications being universally adopted, there's constant work to do to keep up to date," says Richard Wilding.

"As a result, the main player drives that ecosystem. Clipsters make more DCPs than any other tool that I'm aware of. It's self-perpetuating. As soon as it became the market leader, everybody worked to make sure there was interoperability with that DCP output. So there's an onus on the cinema to recognize Clipster DCP creation, but it's also a two-way street. Rohde&Schwarz sells a lot of Clipsters and has a large R&D staff. They're quick off the mark to correct or tweak the software if they find there is an incompatibility".

"So, when you're going to buy something, what are you going to look at? You're going to look at the system you know is going to work," Wilding concludes.



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## Service that adds value

- ▮ Worldwide
- ▮ Local and personalized
- ▮ Customized and flexible
- ▮ Uncompromising quality
- ▮ Long-term dependability

## About Rohde & Schwarz

The Rohde & Schwarz electronics group offers innovative solutions in the following business fields: test and measurement, broadcast and media, secure communications, cybersecurity, monitoring and network testing. Founded more than 80 years ago, the independent company which is headquartered in Munich, Germany, has an extensive sales and service network with locations in more than 70 countries.

## Sustainable product design

- ▮ Environmental compatibility and eco-footprint
- ▮ Energy efficiency and low emissions
- ▮ Longevity and optimized total cost of ownership

Certified Quality Management

**ISO 9001**

Certified Environmental Management

**ISO 14001**

## Rohde & Schwarz GmbH & Co. KG

[www.rohde-schwarz.com](http://www.rohde-schwarz.com)

## Rohde & Schwarz training

[www.training.rohde-schwarz.com](http://www.training.rohde-schwarz.com)

## Regional contact

- ▮ Europe, Africa, Middle East | +49 89 4129 12345  
[customersupport@rohde-schwarz.com](mailto:customersupport@rohde-schwarz.com)
- ▮ North America | 1 888 TEST RSA (1 888 837 87 72)  
[customer.support@rsa.rohde-schwarz.com](mailto:customer.support@rsa.rohde-schwarz.com)
- ▮ Latin America | +1 410 910 79 88  
[customersupport.la@rohde-schwarz.com](mailto:customersupport.la@rohde-schwarz.com)
- ▮ Asia Pacific | +65 65 13 04 88  
[customersupport.asia@rohde-schwarz.com](mailto:customersupport.asia@rohde-schwarz.com)
- ▮ China | +86 800 810 82 28 | +86 400 650 58 96  
[customersupport.china@rohde-schwarz.com](mailto:customersupport.china@rohde-schwarz.com)

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