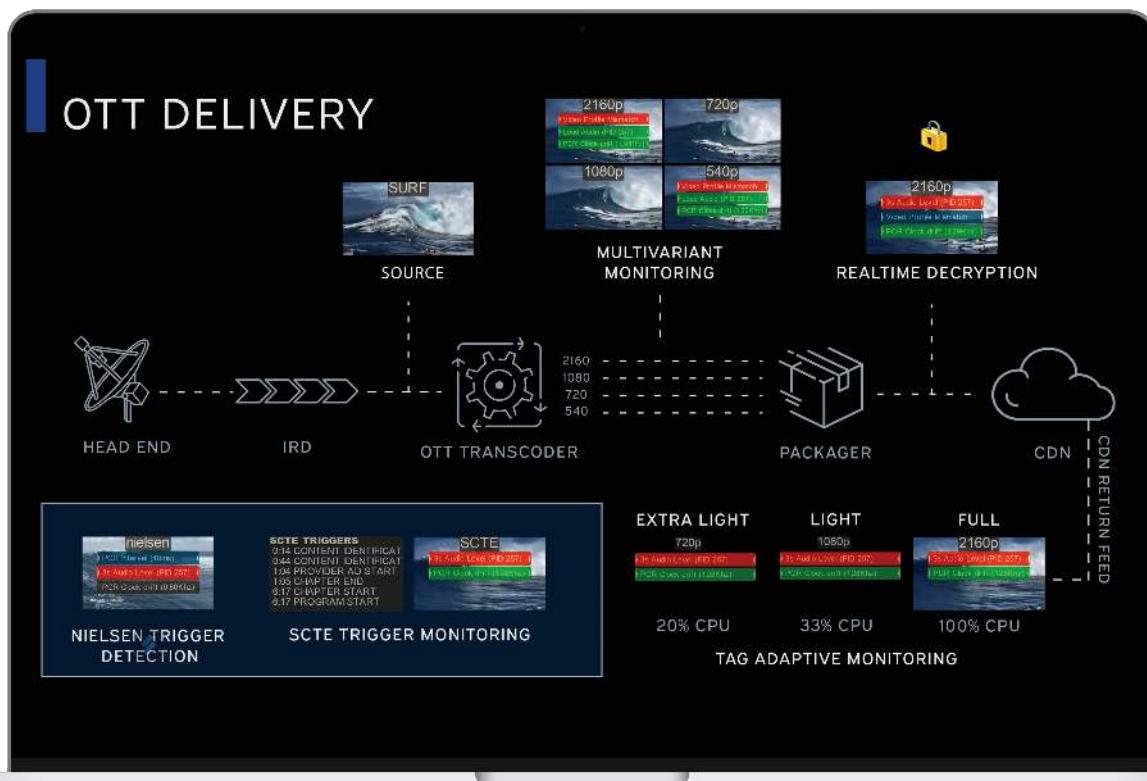


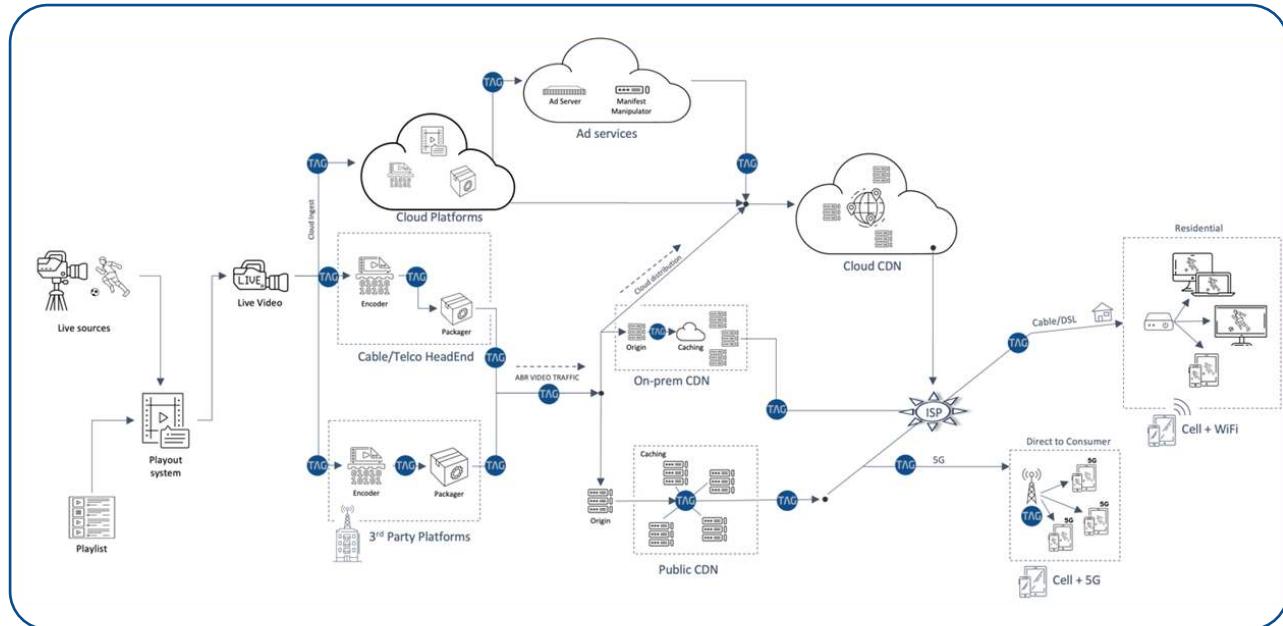
OTT WORKFLOW MONITORING: BEST PRACTICES



OTT WORKFLOW MONITORING: BEST PRACTICES

Effective monitoring across the OTT workflow is essential for maintaining high-quality content delivery.

This involves establishing strategic monitoring setups at various stages of the delivery chain, from content acquisition to DRM/metadata to include the whole end-to-end infrastructure. This guide provides best practices for setting up a monitoring system at each critical point in the workflow, ensuring issues are promptly identified and resolved to maintain content integrity and service quality.

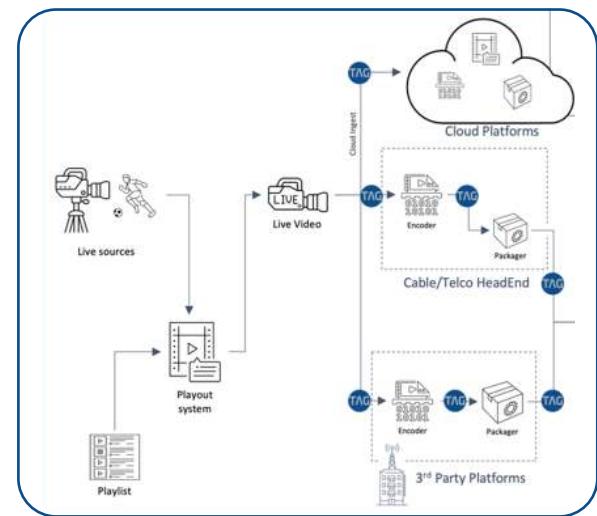


Content Acquisition and Playout System:

- What to Monitor: Source content acquisition, live feeds, and playout system
- Why Are We Monitoring: Ensures the integrity of the original content and checks for issues in live feeds
- Probing Point Actions: Real-time monitoring for signal integrity, frame rate, and resolution

Configure monitoring at the Content Acquisition and Playout System to ensure the quality of source feeds.

Implement real-time monitoring to assess signal integrity, frame rate, and resolution. This stage is crucial for maintaining the quality of the content at the start of the workflow.



Thresholds/Alarms

- We recommend monitoring **video, audio, subtitles**, and possibly **SCTE markers** to make sure originally received stream is good quality and complies with all internal relevant requirements. For example, ensuring the stream includes audio tracks for all of the different available languages for the specific programming and associated subtitles.
- The major thresholds are relevant to video: **black video, video freeze, blocking, bars and no video**.

Threshold Configuration

Threshold Configuration							
Label		Thresholds					
#	Label	Group	Standard	Threshold	Severity	Record	Default
38	Black frame detection	Video	All	12500 ms	Major	OFF	ON
43	Detect decoding errors	Video	All		Major	OFF	ON
49	Black frame with logo detection	Video	All	12500 ms	Major	OFF	ON
59	Freeze frame	Video	All	12500 ms	Major	OFF	ON
60	No Video	Video	All	1500 ms	Critical	OFF	ON
84	Video bitrate, max threshold	Video	All	25 %	Notice	OFF	ON
85	Video bitrate, min threshold	Video	All	15 %	Notice	OFF	ON
116	Detect color-space mismatch (ex, YU...	Video	All		Critical	OFF	ON

#	Label	Group	Standard	Threshold	Severity	Record	Default
134	Missing SPS	Video	All	4000 ms	Critical	OFF	ON
172	Video blocking detection - scene	Video	All	50 relative	Minor	OFF	ON
173	Video blocking detection - peak	Video	All	50 relative	Minor	OFF	ON
229	HDR SEI data	Video	All		Disabled	OFF	ON
230	HDR SEI data missing	Video	All	10 sec	Disabled	OFF	ON
234	Video PTS variance detection	Video	All		Disabled	OFF	ON
320	Missing AFD	Video	All		Disabled	OFF	ON
321	AFD Value Changed	Video	All		Disabled	OFF	ON
374	Detect Video Bars	Video	All	2000 ms	Major	OFF	ON

- For audio we will most importantly monitor **silence/no audio** and then additional thresholds based on type (i.e **dolby**) and if it was **uncompressed also audio phasing**.

#	Label	Group	Standard	Threshold	Severity	Record	Default
61	No Audio	Audio	All	2000 ms	Critical	OFF	ON
62	Audio Silence	Audio	All	5000 ms	Critical	OFF	ON
63	Audio Phase	Audio	All	60000 ms	Major	OFF	ON
73	True-peak audio level above X dBTP	Audio	All	-1 dBTP	Major	OFF	ON
74	Short term (3sec) audio level above ...	Audio	All	-6 LUFS	Major	OFF	ON
86	Audio bitrate, max threshold	Audio	All	24 %	Notice	OFF	ON
87	Audio bitrate, min threshold	Audio	All	14 %	Notice	OFF	ON
107	Detect Mono audio (on streams with ...	Audio	All	120000 ms	Notice	OFF	ON

- This monitoring allows us even to troubleshoot the workflow because, obviously, if the source is bad, it will be bad throughout.

Encoders:

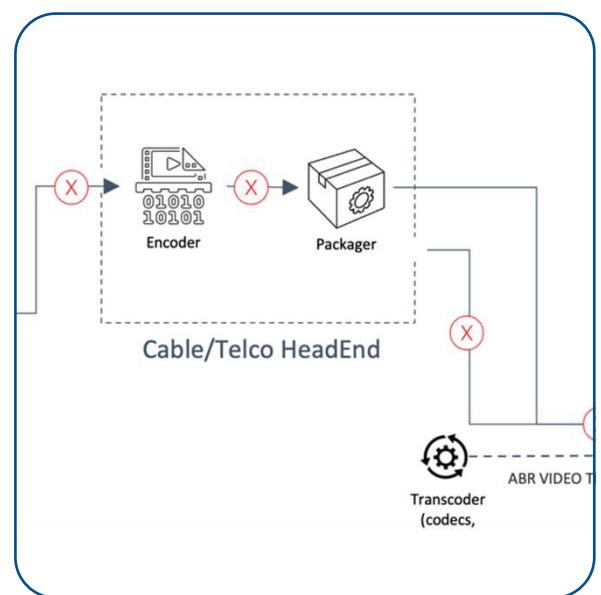
- What to Monitor: Encoding process for format conversion and compression
- Why Are We Monitoring: Verifies proper encoding to avoid quality degradation and format incompatibility
- Probing Point Actions: Check for compression artifacts and conformity to specified codecs and resolutions

Set up the monitoring system to scrutinize the encoding process, focusing on compression and format conversion.

Include checks for compression artifacts and verify codec compliance and resolution accuracy. Proper monitoring at this stage prevents quality degradation and format incompatibility.

There are two common formats of Packager created wrapping of compressed sources: DVB (Digital Video Broadcasting – European Consortium) and ATSC (Advanced Television Systems Committee – American set).

DVB is often used for satellite and fiber feeds of signals, there are recommended set of thresholds for SDT, BAT, EIT, NIT, AIT, TDT tables used in this standard.



Threshold Configuration							
Label							
#	↑1	Label	Group	Standard	Threshold	Severity	Record
146		STT Table error	STT, RRT	ATSC		Critical	<input type="button" value="OFF"/>
147		STT accuracy error	STT, RRT	ATSC	5 sec	Critical	<input type="button" value="OFF"/>
148		STT Table missing	STT, RRT	ATSC	10000 ms	Major	<input type="button" value="OFF"/>
149		STT Table repetition rate too slow	STT, RRT	ATSC	1000 ms	Major	<input type="button" value="OFF"/>
154		RRT Table missing	STT, RRT	ATSC	120000 ...	Major	<input type="button" value="OFF"/>
155		RRT Table repetition rate too slow	STT, RRT	ATSC	60000 ms	Major	<input type="button" value="OFF"/>
159		RRT is illegal	STT, RRT	ATSC		Major	<input type="button" value="OFF"/>
160		STT is illegal	STT, RRT	ATSC		Major	<input type="button" value="OFF"/>
170		RRT CRC change (Monitor changes to RRT crc)	STT, RRT	ATSC		Critical	<input type="button" value="OFF"/>
171		RRT Version Change	STT, RRT	ATSC		Major	<input type="button" value="OFF"/>

- Starting off the recommended SDT (Service Description Table), and BAT (Bouquet Association Table) Thresholds, all alarms on these sub-tables of DVB are either Critical or Major
- The DVB's EIT (Event Information Table) is an optional table, but if it is enabled 'after scan' we recommend these alarms.

Threshold Configuration							
Label							
#	↑1	Label	Group	Standard	Threshold	Severity ↑2	Record
41		EIT actual not found	EIT	DVB	5000 ms	Major	<input type="button" value="OFF"/>
42		EIT actual repetition rate too slow	EIT	DVB	2250 ms	Major	<input type="button" value="OFF"/>
44		EIT other not found	EIT	DVB	20000 ms	Notice	<input type="button" value="OFF"/>
45		EIT other repetition rate too slow	EIT	DVB	11000 ms	Minor	<input type="button" value="OFF"/>
46		EIT Actual Version Change	EIT	DVB		Major	<input type="button" value="OFF"/>
47		EIT Schedule Actual not found	EIT	DVB	20000 ms	Disabled	<input type="button" value="OFF"/>
48		EIT Schedule Actual repetition rate too slow	EIT	DVB	11000 ms	Disabled	<input type="button" value="OFF"/>
51		EIT Schedule Other repetition rate too slow	EIT	DVB	30000 ms	Disabled	<input type="button" value="OFF"/>
53		Table ID error on PID 0x12 (EIT)	EIT	DVB		Critical	<input type="button" value="OFF"/>
79		EIT is illegal	EIT	DVB		Critical	<input type="button" value="OFF"/>
100		CC errors on EIT	EIT	DVB	1 CC/sec	Critical	<input type="button" value="OFF"/>
139		Service EIT not found	EIT	All	5000 ms	Notice	<input type="button" value="OFF"/>

- DVB's NIT (Network Information Table) gives information on organization of multiplexes carried via network.

Threshold Configuration						
# ↑1	Label	Group	Standard	Threshold	Severity ↑2	Record
27	NIT Actual not found	NIT	DVB	20000 ms	Minor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OFF
28	NIT Actual repetition rate too slow	NIT	DVB	10000 ms	Minor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OFF
30	NIT Other repetition rate too slow	NIT	DVB	10000 ms	Minor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OFF
31	Table ID error on PID 0x10 (NIT)	NIT	DVB		Major	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OFF
78	NIT is illegal	NIT	DVB		Critical	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OFF
103	CC errors on NIT	NIT	DVB	1 CC/sec	Critical	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OFF
174	Carrier ID field missing	NIT	DVB	30000 ms	Disabled	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OFF
175	Carrier ID Repetition rate	NIT	DVB	2000 ms	Minor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OFF
176	Carrier ID illegal	NIT	DVB		Major	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OFF
177	Carrier ID mismatch (not as expected)	NIT	DVB		Major	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OFF

- DVB's AIT (Application Information Table) gives full information on the data broadcast and the required state of applications used.

Threshold Configuration						
# ↑1	Label	Group	Standard	Threshold	Severity ↑2	Record
532	AIT is illegal	AIT	All		Critical	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OFF
533	AIT repetition too slow	AIT	All	3000 ms	Major	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OFF
534	Table ID error on AIT PID	AIT	All		Critical	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OFF
535	AIT Is Scrambled	AIT	All		Critical	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OFF
536	AIT Missing	AIT	All	5000 ms	Disabled	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OFF

- Finally, the last DVB Table we have alarms on is the TDT (Time and Date Table) time signals are required for smooth playback of DVB streams

Threshold Configuration						
Label		Threshold Configuration				
# ↑1	Label	Group	Standard	Threshold	Severity ↑2	Record
54	Table ID error on PID 0x13 (RST)	TDT	DVB		Critical	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
55	TDT Not Found	TDT	DVB	60000 ms	Major	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
56	TDT repetition rate too slow	TDT	DVB	30000 ms	Major	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
58	Table ID error on PID 0x14 (TDT)	TDT	DVB		Critical	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
80	TDT is illegal	TDT	DVB		Critical	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
81	RST is illegal	TDT	DVB		Critical	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
102	CC errors on TDT/TOT	TDT	DVB	1 CC/sec	Critical	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
180	TDT Accuracy error	TDT	DVB	5 sec	Critical	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
207	RST Not Found	TDT	DVB	60000 ms	Disabled	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
208	RST repetition rate too slow	TDT	DVB	30000 ms	Major	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
209	RST running status not as expected	TDT	DVB		Major	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF

In North America, a simpler wrapping is used by packagers, especially if OTT streams originated in over-the-air broadcasts; that wrapping standard is ATSC (Advanced Television Systems Committee – American set). Here are thresholds for MGT, VCT, STT, and RTT tables used in this standard.

- ATSC's MGT (Master Guide Table) is the primary description of the stream, and we recommend these thresholds.

Threshold Configuration						
Label		Threshold Configuration				
# ↑1	Label	Group ↑	Standard	Threshold	Severity	Record
150	MGT Table missing	MGT	ATSC	2000 ms	Major	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
151	MGT Table repetition rate too slow	MGT	ATSC	150 ms	Major	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
156	MGT Version Change	MGT	ATSC		Major	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
157	MGT is illegal	MGT	ATSC		Critical	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
163	MGT CRC change (Monitor changes to MGT crc)	MGT	ATSC		Critical	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF

- ATSC's VCT (Virtual Channel Table) contains a list of attributes for the channels within the stream, most probed element of this table are critical.

Threshold Configuration						
# ↑1	Label	Group	Standard	Threshold	Severity	Record
152	VCT Table missing	VCT	ATSC	4000 ms	Major	<input type="checkbox"/>
153	VCT Table repetition rate too slow	VCT	ATSC	400 ms	Major	<input type="checkbox"/>
158	VCT is illegal	VCT	ATSC		Critical	<input type="checkbox"/>
161	VCT Version Change	VCT	ATSC		Major	<input type="checkbox"/>
162	VCT CRC change (Monitor changes to VCT crc)	VCT	ATSC		Critical	<input type="checkbox"/>
164	VCT Table type mismatch	VCT	ATSC		Critical	<input type="checkbox"/>
165	VCT channel number mismatch (major or minor)	VCT	ATSC		Critical	<input type="checkbox"/>
166	VCT service type mismatch	VCT	ATSC		Critical	<input type="checkbox"/>
167	VCT source id mismatch	VCT	ATSC		Critical	<input type="checkbox"/>
168	Channel missing in VCT	VCT	ATSC		Critical	<input type="checkbox"/>
169	Check for VCT channel short name matching	VCT	ATSC		Major	<input type="checkbox"/>

- ATSC's SST (System Time Table) and RRT (Rating Region Table) are either for packet timing or ratings for multiple geographical regions.

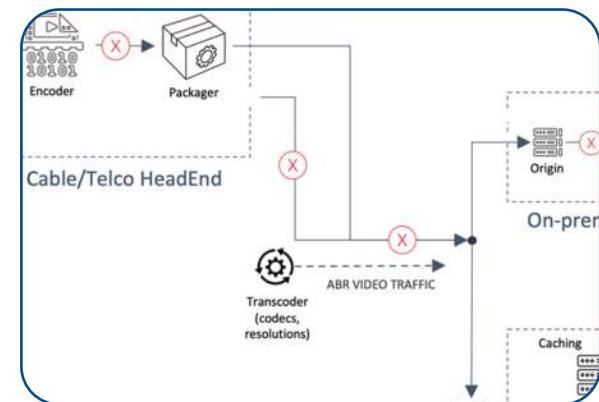
Threshold Configuration						
# ↑1	Label	Group	Standard	Threshold	Severity	Record
146	STT Table error	STT, RRT	ATSC		Critical	<input type="checkbox"/>
147	STT accuracy error	STT, RRT	ATSC	5 sec	Critical	<input type="checkbox"/>
148	STT Table missing	STT, RRT	ATSC	10000 ms	Major	<input type="checkbox"/>
149	STT Table repetition rate too slow	STT, RRT	ATSC	1000 ms	Major	<input type="checkbox"/>
154	RRT Table missing	STT, RRT	ATSC	120000 ...	Major	<input type="checkbox"/>
155	RRT Table repetition rate too slow	STT, RRT	ATSC	60000 ms	Major	<input type="checkbox"/>
159	RRT is illegal	STT, RRT	ATSC		Major	<input type="checkbox"/>
160	STT is illegal	STT, RRT	ATSC		Major	<input type="checkbox"/>
170	RRT CRC change (Monitor changes to RRT crc)	STT, RRT	ATSC		Critical	<input type="checkbox"/>
171	RRT Version Change	STT, RRT	ATSC		Major	<input type="checkbox"/>

Transcoders (if applicable):

- What to Monitor: Transcoding operations for multiple formats and bitrates
- Why Are We Monitoring: Ensures availability of content in formats suitable for various devices
- Probing Point Actions: Monitor for successful creation of all required profiles and bitrates

For transcoding operations, extend monitoring to oversee the creation of multiple-format profiles and bitrates. Ensure all required profiles are generated accurately and bitrates align with specified standards. This monitoring ensures content compatibility across various devices and network conditions.

Transcoded OTT signals into HLS and other formats can have numerous errors; the number of these OTT thresholds and alerts is such a large group that three screens are needed to show all the settings, with TAG's recommendation on Critical and Major levels highlighted.



Threshold Configuration						
Label		Group	Standard	Threshold	Severity	Record
213	HLS block doesn't start with PAT	OTT	All		Critical	<input type="button" value="OFF"/>
214	HLS block doesn't start with PMT	OTT	All		Critical	<input type="button" value="OFF"/>
215	HLS Block sequence error	OTT	All		Critical	<input type="button" value="OFF"/>
216	HLS Block sequence stopped changing	OTT	All		Critical	<input type="button" value="OFF"/>
217	HLS Profile not found on the master M3U8 file	OTT	All		Critical	<input type="button" value="OFF"/>
218	HLS M3U8 / Mpeg-Dash MPD / MSS ISM parsing er...	OTT	All		Critical	<input type="button" value="OFF"/>
219	HLS/Mpeg-Dash/MSS Block download fail	OTT	All		Critical	<input type="button" value="OFF"/>
220	HLS/Mpeg-Dash/MSS Block download time too long	OTT	All	10000 ms	Critical	<input type="button" value="OFF"/>
221	HLS Profile version not equal to playlist version	OTT	All		Critical	<input type="button" value="OFF"/>
222	HLS Version not as expected	OTT	All		Critical	<input type="button" value="OFF"/>
223	HLS/Mpeg-Dash/MSS download retry (but success...	OTT	All		Minor	<input type="button" value="OFF"/>
224	HLS content not scrambled	OTT	All		Major	<input type="button" value="OFF"/>
225	OTT content scrambled (and not decrypted)	OTT	All		Major	<input type="button" value="OFF"/>
226	RTMP/CTP Connection failure	OTT	All		Critical	<input type="button" value="OFF"/>
227	RTMP/CTP Underrun	OTT	All		Critical	<input type="button" value="OFF"/>

Threshold Configuration						
Label						
#	Label	Group	Standard	Threshold	Severity	Record
228	HLS/Mpeg-Dash/MSS Block download started too l...	OTT	All		Critical	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
235	HLS/Mpeg-Dash/MSS Block shorter from expected...	OTT	All	1%	Minor	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
236	HLS/Mpeg-Dash/MSS Block longer from expected...	OTT	All	1%	Minor	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF

240	HLS Block audio vs video PTS mismatch (Neg - au...	OTT	All	500 ms	Minor	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
241	Compare Video PTS increment with EBP	OTT	All	5 ms	Critical	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
242	Compare Video PTS/EBP drift	OTT	All	5 ppm	Critical	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
243	EBP information is missing	OTT	All		Disabled	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
244	EBP presented after initial video PTS	OTT	All		Critical	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
245	No PTS/EBP reference info found	OTT	All		Critical	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
246	Profiles PTS out of sync	OTT	All	2500 us	Critical	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
247	Profiles EBP out of sync	OTT	All	2500 us	Critical	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
248	Missing necessary data/time in HLS manifest	OTT	All		Disabled	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF

Threshold Configuration						
Label						
#	Label	Group	Standard	Threshold	Severity	Record
249	HLS/Mpeg-Dash/MSS Block download fail due to ti...	OTT	All		Disabled	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
250	HLS/Mpeg-Dash/MSS Block download fail except fo...	OTT	All		Disabled	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
343	Missing OTT audio component	OTT	All		Critical	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
344	Missing OTT subtitle component	OTT	All		Critical	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
345	Anvato content type change	OTT	All		Disabled	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
346	Anvato content type is not program	OTT	All		Disabled	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
347	Anvato no content type change	OTT	All	15 min	Disabled	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
348	OTT discontinuity marker received	OTT	All		Disabled	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
349	OTT sequence discontinuity	OTT	All		Disabled	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
378	OTT chunk burst (m3u8/ism/mpd updated with mu...	OTT	All	3 chunks	Major	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
379	OTT playback jump (m3u8/ism/mpd updated refer...	OTT	All	5 sec	Critical	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
540	Detect certificate error (any)	OTT	All		Critical	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
541	Detect expired certificate	OTT	All		Critical	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
542	Detect certificate verification error	OTT	All		Critical	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
543	Detect missing certificate for host url	OTT	All		Critical	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF

ISPs or Final Delivery to Customers

Subtitles, Teletext or Closed Captions not only assist hearing-impaired persons, but also OTT streams being monitored with audio turned down in waiting rooms and the like.

Threshold Configuration						
Label						
#	Label	Group	Standard	Threshold	Severity	Record
122	Subtitle CC Error	Subtitle	All	2 CC/sec	Critical	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
131	Zero bitrate on subtitle PID	Subtitle	All	5000 ms	Major	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
132	Subtitle PES Drop - Subtitle PTS and PCR mismatch	Subtitle	All		Critical	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
133	Subtitle content error	Subtitle	All		Critical	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
145	Teletext Subtitle content error	Subtitle	All		Critical	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
197	Subtitle data_identifier is not 0x20	Subtitle	All		Minor	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
210	No Subtitles content	Subtitle	All	2 min	Major	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
488	No OP-47/OP-42/Teletext carrier	Subtitle	All	30 sec	Disabled	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
489	No OP-47/OP-42/Teletext subtitles content	Subtitle	All	30 sec	Disabled	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF

Threshold Configuration						
Label						
#	Label	Group	Standard	Threshold	Severity	Record
185	Closed Captions, All channels missing (EIA-608)	Closed Captions	All	30 sec	Disabled	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
186	Closed Captions, All channels not updated (EIA-60...	Closed Captions	All	30 sec	Disabled	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
187	Closed Captions, Parse parity error (EIA-608/708)	Closed Captions	All		Major	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
188	Closed Captions (EIA-608), Channel 1 missing	Closed Captions	All	30 sec	Disabled	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF

195	Closed Captions (EIA-608), Channel 4 not updated	Closed Captions	All	30 sec	Disabled	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
341	OTT Closed Captions missing	Closed Captions	All	30 sec	Major	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
342	OTT Closed Captions not updated	Closed Captions	All	30 sec	Critical	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
490	Closed Captions (EIA-708), Channel 1 missing	Closed Captions	All	30 sec	Disabled	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF
491	Closed Captions (EIA-708), Channel 2 missing	Closed Captions	All	30 sec	Disabled	<input type="checkbox"/> OFF

Then, we probe the primary content of the OTT streams and recommend these threshold settings, including mismatches of signals to the reference in the stream.

Threshold Configuration						
#	Label	Group	Standard	Threshold	Severity	Record
432	Video mismatch detection compared to reference	Content	All	1 sec	Critical	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OFF
433	Audio mismatch detection compared to reference	Content	All	1 sec	Critical	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OFF
434	Detecting audio-video offset compared to reference	Content	All	50 ms	Critical	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OFF
435	Latency to reference channel changes	Content	All		Critical	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OFF
436	Latency to reference channel outside of expected r...	Content	All	50 ms	Critical	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OFF
437	Detect reference channel change (requires multiplexing)	Content	All		Critical	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OFF
438	Detection of video match to reference	Content	All		Critical	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OFF
537	Detect Good & Bad A/V sync marker	Content	All		Critical	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OFF
538	Detect Bad A/V sync marker (audio out of threshold)	Content	All	5 ms	Critical	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OFF
539	Detect Good A/V sync marker (audio within threshold)	Content	All	5 ms	Critical	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OFF

Packagers:

- What to Monitor: Segmenting and packaging content for adaptive streaming (eg, HLS, DASH)
- Why Are We Monitoring: Critical for smooth adaptive bitrate streaming, crucial for different network conditions
- Probing Point Actions: Validate segment availability, integrity, and compliance with streaming protocols

TAG MCM has many thresholds for things like expired DASH certificates that we have developed over the years with input from our clients to catch common errors with packagers.

Content Delivery Networks (CDNs):

- What to Monitor: CDN performance, including edge servers
- Why Are We Monitoring: Affects content delivery speed and buffering; key for global distribution
- Probing Point Actions: Monitor latency, packet loss, and throughput at various geographic locations

If a CDN server gets overwhelmed with clients but has not yet failed, it will often increase the inter-packet timing, and the MCM has an alarm threshold to report that change.

Origin Servers:

These servers are usually the last point before CDN servers, where video is stored or composed.

- What to Monitor: Server performance and content availability
- Why Are We Monitoring: Ensures content is readily available for distribution to CDNs
- Probing Point Actions: Check server health, load, and response times

Many clients use TAG MCMs to confirm high-quality audio, video, and metadata in all streams from Origin Servers.

An example would be our video blocking level alerts, where the compression blocks are evident to the viewer.

Cloud Computing Resources (if used):

- What to Monitor: Cloud infrastructure and services
- Why Are We Monitoring: Cloud failures can impact content availability and delivery
- Probing Point Actions: Monitor cloud resource utilization, scalability, and redundancy

Most cloud providers provide monitoring services, but the TAG MCS software just shows the health of the cloud instances where MCM is running.

Edge Devices (Set-top boxes, Sticks like Chromecast, Roku, and Amazon Fire Stick):

- What to Monitor: Final content delivery and playback on consumer devices
- Why Are We Monitoring: Directly impacts viewer experience, crucial for QoE
- Probing Point Actions: Collect data on playback issues, buffering, app crashes, and device compatibility

Some non-TAG software products monitor devices; we can only monitor one of these devices if its output is converted to an IP stream by a third-party converter and sent back to an MCM.

Metadata and DRM Systems:

- What to Monitor: Metadata accuracy and DRM (Digital Rights Management) functionality
- Why Are We Monitoring: Ensures content discoverability and compliance with licensing agreements
- Probing Point Actions: Validate metadata integrity and DRM effectiveness

TAG MCMs have several thresholds for OTT certificate errors, and DVB Conditional access specific data to help monitor DRM before being sent to the end customer. It is also common for the DRM vendors to also have monitoring tools in this area.

Network Infrastructure:

- What to Monitor: Internal and external network performance
- Why Are We Monitoring: Network issues can lead to delivery failures or degraded quality
- Probing Point Actions: Continuous monitoring of network health, bandwidth, and connectivity

Many MCMs alert thresholds can be used to detect network issues, like continuity errors or even an increase in Inter Packet Timing.

