



Tom Leyden, Director of Alliances and Marketing, Amplidata

TITLE

Building a Video Archive for the Legendary Montreux Jazz Festival

ABSTRACT

Montreux Sounds preserve more than 5,000 hours of concerts that have been recorded since the inception of the Montreux Jazz Festival in 1967. In 1991, the company started HD recordings and in 2010 the Festival experimented with 3D. The result of this is an immense library of concerts in various formats and on various media. The physical deterioration and technological obsolescence of the audio-visual media – of which there are no backup copies – has prompted Montreux Sounds to find a solution to manage these media in the long term.

Montreux Sounds set up collaboration with the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology of Lausanne (EPFL) to “digitize” and valorize archive. First, all the original recordings had to be identified and a reference database of their contents had to be created. After creating the inventory, the actual digitization process began by transferring the old tapes to a huge, redundant LTO tape library (two copies uncompressed, two copies compressed). As a second phase of the project, EPFL is building an online storage infrastructure that will enable the Festival to make the library more easily available for future developments. One project that will particularly benefit from the Active Archive is the plan to make most concerts available through the Montreux Jazz Café outlets.

BIOGRAPHY

Tom Leyden joined Belgian object storage innovator Amplidata in 2011 as Director of Alliances and Marketing to drive the company’s marketing, product management and PR strategies. Tom has 15 years’ experience working for disruptive IT companies (from emerging stage to acquisition) including four years in cloud computing. Through his collaboration with Belgium-based technology incubator Incubaid, Tom has been involved in several successful startups, including data deduplication pioneer DataCenter Technologies and cloud Innovator Q-layer.

During his career Tom spent 2 years at Sun Microsystems; here he held a pivotal role within the product management team responsible for building the Sun Cloud, designed as a more open alternative to the Amazon web services offering. At this time Tom also took on the responsibility of cloud evangelist, and this included working as an organiser to bring CloudCamp to Europe. After Oracle acquired Sun, Tom spent some time with the combined OVM product management team.

Prior to his role at Sun, Tom was product manager at Q-layer, the company behind the first IAAS platform and what would become the backbone of the Sun Cloud. Today Q-layer is still recognized as one of the first true cloud enabling platforms.