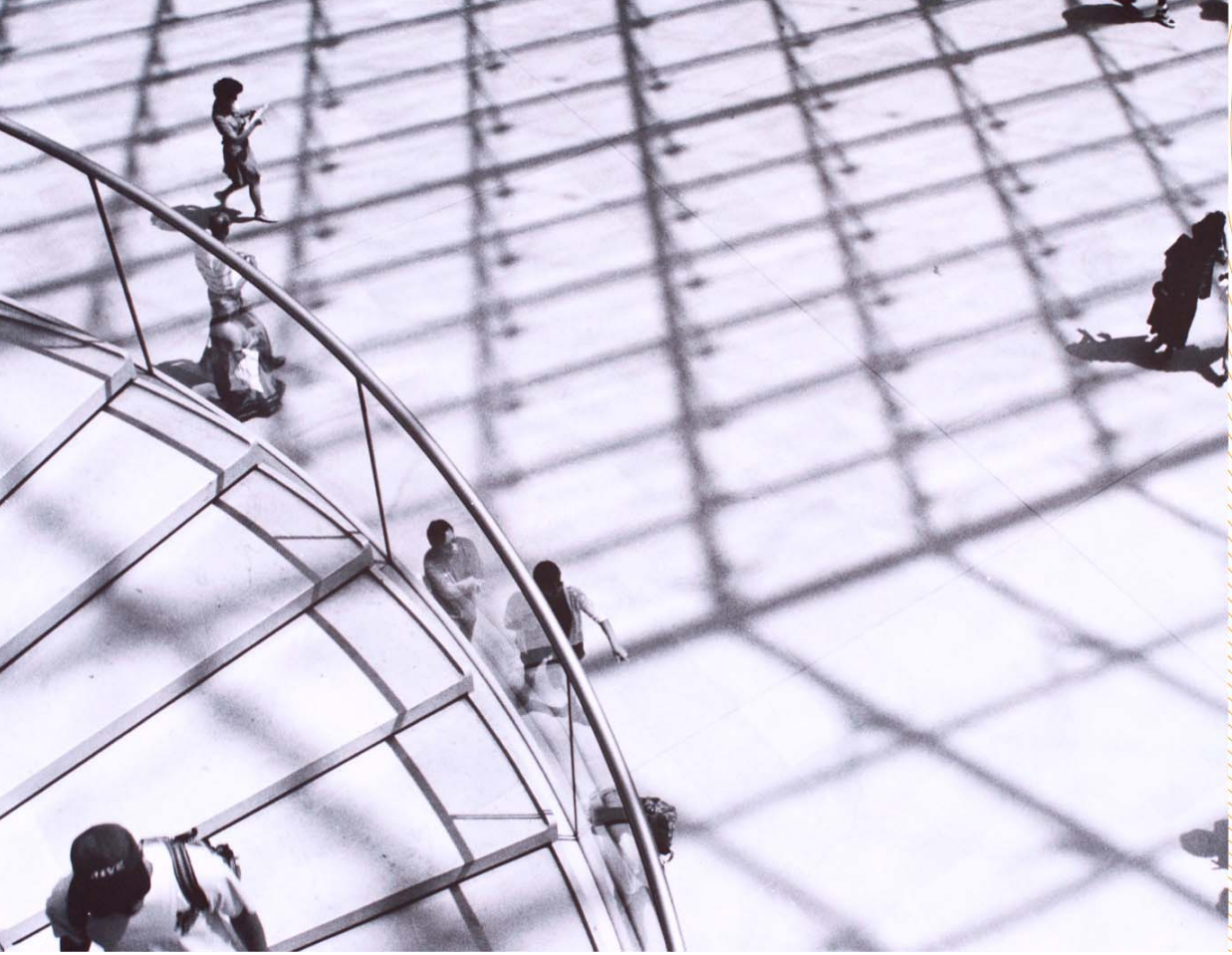

VP-X

A webservice oriented platform for third party content delivery

08 April 2008

Overview 1.0.1 release

VP-X is a **middleware audio/video platform** which allows institutions to plug in this backend into local applications.

VP-X facilitates access to, and usage of (shared) **storage** capacity, **metadata** database and the **streaming servers** of SURFnet.

VP-X offers functionality for **uploading**, **playing**, **searching** as well as **access control** towards end-user applications**,** and offers a **management interface** and **reporting tools** for operational management.

Overview -2

Institutions can build their **own applications** which consume the VP-X **RESTfull webservices** allowing **seamless integration of multimedia content** within their own applications.

By providing a **centrally managed, back-end** audio & video **infrastructure**, VP-X eliminates the need for the realization of a complex platform by the institutions.

Open Source Licensing !

Joined developed effort of SURFnet and Kennisnet, securing long term commitment.

Some Highlights

No Storage Lock-in: Actual storage solution is not relevant to the backend application.

Automated **Transcoding** (flash / wmv / h264) and optional for 3GP mobile platforms using ffmpeg or other tools.

Automated **Stills** generation.

Bulk upload of content using ftp.

A **reference application** is provided, and **plug-ins** for e.g. Drupal and Joomla will be developed.

REST?

REST - Representational State Transfer

Key design principles:

* Application state and functionality are divided into **resources**
* **Every resource is uniquely addressable** using a universal syntax for use in hypermedia links
* All **resources share a uniform interface** for the transfer of state between client and resource, consisting of
    - A constrained set of well-defined operations
    - A constrained set of content types
* REST is a Client-server, **Stateless**, **Cacheable** and **Layered** protocol

Realworld REST:All static HTTP, Flickr, Amazon S3, most Yahoo! Services

Future

Automated distribution of content over multiple storage solutions (both on- and near-line), depending on popularity of content.

End user control over delivery routing of media streams.

Support for live streaming content.

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